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THE TIMES

No. 65,092 SATURDAY OCTOBER 22 1994

Mainland ban on Adams lifted

Major pledge of peace talks by Christmas

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

JOHN Major accelerated the peace process in Northern Ireland yesterday by pledging that his Government would open talks with Sinn Fein before Christmas.

The Prime Minister flew to Belfast to make the historic announcement and to declare that he was making a "working assumption" that the IRA ceasefire is intended to be permanent.

Speaking to more than 200 businessmen at the Europa Hotel in the centre of Belfast, Mr Major also lifted the exclusion orders banning Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness from mainland Britain and announced that all road crossings on the border with the Irish Republic would be reopened. The Prime Minister also said that the Government would convene a large investment conference in the city in December.

His speech was broadly welcomed across Northern Ireland's political spectrum and by the Government of the Republic. Mr McGuinness, who has complained about the Government's slow response to the IRA ceasefire, described the speech as positive and said he was now more optimistic about the future.

Mr Major, who was on his second visit to the province since the IRA declared its ceasefire in August, seized the initiative when he said that government officials would hold exploratory talks with Sinn Fein by the end of the year provided the party remained committed to peaceful methods. In his speech to the Institute of Directors, the Prime Minister said that the talks would explore how Sinn Fein can make a transition to normal political life. He added that the discussions would also cover the handing in of IRA weapons.

Mr Major said: "Peace cannot be assured finally until the paramilitaries on both sides hand in their weapons. This is a difficult issue, but it cannot be ducked. We must consider therefore how guns and explosives can best be deposited and decommissioned." He added that he would be pushing for a joint approach on the weapons issue with the Irish Government.

Mr Major, who called on Sinn Fein and the IRA to demonstrate that the IRA ceasefire was permanent during his last visit to Belfast, last month, said that he had been more impressed by their actions than by their words. He added: "There must be a genuine commitment by Sinn Fein to use and support only peaceful methods in a democratic political arena ... We shall not be able to proceed if it is called into question."

He said that with the talks in sight, the exclusion orders on Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness would be lifted. The two were banned from mainland Britain under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

The Prime Minister indicated that the framework document, which will form the basis for the resumption of inter-party talks, will be the next stage. He tried to reassure Unionists about the dcoument when he said that it was not a blueprint and was meant to help discussion.

Mr Major also outlined his plans for the reform of government in Northern Ireland, which is designed to appeal to both communities. He said that he would be proposing a local assembly to restore local accountability. "We will be seeking a basis for broad agreement," he said. "Neither a purely internal solution, nor a return to domination of one side by the other, would achieve this. Local democracy requires support across the

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- ☐ Talks: Ths year.
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- ☐ Framework document: The basis of a settlement
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- ☐ Investment: International conference in Belfast

Neil Hamilton, with his wife Christine, displaying the biscuit he was given yesterday by pupils at a school in his constituency. Report, page 5

Call for Commons investigation puts pressure on Hamilton

By Nicholas Wood and Jill Sherman

PRESSURE on junior trade minister Neil Hamilton to resign from the Government over the cash-for-questions furore *intensified last night*, after he became the subject of a formal complaint to a powerful Commons committee.

As Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, passed to the Prime Minister the conclusions of his inquiry into alleged ministerial misconduct, *Alex Carlile, a Liberal Democrat* frontbencher, demanded an official investigation by the Committee on Members' Interests into Mr Hamilton's failure to declare his six-day free stay in 1987 with his wife Christine at the Paris Ritz Hotel, worth more than £4,000 and paid for by Mohamed Al-Fayed, owner of Harrods.

Senior Conservatives viewed Mr Carlile's move with dismay, fearing that it would prolong the damaging media blitz about Tory sleaze. Labour members of the Tory-dominated, 12-strong committee backed *Mr Carlile's call for a full* investigation.

Amid mounting speculation at Westminster that Sir Robin's three-week inquiry has ranged wider than the two ministers named so far, Mr Carlile also asked the Prime Minister how many ministers had been investigated. *Downing Street would only* say that a summary of Sir Robin's report had reached John Major's private office.

Alex Carlile: calling for an official investigation

The speculation was fuelled by a claim by Peter Preston, editor of *The Guardian*, that Mr Al-Fayed, source of the allegations, was gunning for *Michael Howard, the Home* Secretary.

Mr Preston said that the man who clashed with Tiny Rowland for control of the store in the mid-1980s was "waxing indignant" about Mr Howard, who occupied Mr Hamilton's job as Corporate Affairs Minister in 1987, when inspectors were appointed to report on the Harrods takeover. The DTI report was highly critical of the Egyptian-born businessman.

Mr Preston suggested that Mr Al-Fayed believed that Mr Howard's position could have been compromised by the fact that his second cousin — *Harry Landy* — was deputy chairman of one of Mr Rowland's companies. Last night the Trade and Industry Department pointed out that the decision to appoint inspectors had been taken by Paul Channon, the then Trade Secretary.

Mr Howard's friends shrugged off the alleged conflict of interest as "pathetic", saying that the relationship with Mr Landy was too distant to be of any significance.

Mr Hamilton has denied receiving any payments from Mr Al-Fayed for tabling Com*mons questions over the* Harrods case and is suing *The Guardian* for libel.

Ritz report, page 5
Simon Jenkins and David Selbourne, page 20

Cousin denies close link with Howard

By Andrew Pierce

A CENTRAL figure in the controversy surrounding Michael Howard last night defended the Home Secretary against any allegations of impropriety.

Harry Landy, the second cousin of Mr Howard, said that they had never spoken or met during the Department of Trade and Industry inquiry into the Harrods takeover in 1987. As the Commons cash-for-questions scandal threatened to embroil Mr Howard, Mr Landy, 83, director of a Lonrho subsidiary, said that he was "*astonished*" to have had his name dragged into the deepening controversy.

Mohamed Al-Fayed was said to be indignant that Mr Howard, when a junior minister at the DTI, had failed to declare his relationship with Mr Landy when the inquiry into the Harrods takeover was set up in 1987.

Mr Landy said: "Michael Howard is a good and honourable politician. We may be second cousins but we are not exactly close. We don't even send each other Christmas cards. I haven't seen him for two years. The last time was at a public meeting he addressed in London. We had a brief chat afterwards and that was that.

"There has been some suggestion we grew up in Wales together but I left Llanelli in 1935 before Michael Howard was even born. There is a 30-year age gap. It's not as if we used to play hopscotch together."

Mr Landy was deputy chairman of Israel British *Bank, which collapsed in 1974* with debts of more than £20 million. Mr Landy is now a director of London City & Westcliff Properties, a Lonrho subsidiary. The spotlight fell on the Home Secretary's relat-

Continued on page 5, col 1

Actor Burt Lancaster dies at 80

From Ben Macintyre in New York

BURT Lancaster, the veteran Hollywood actor who *came to personify the intelligent*, humane tough guy, died of a heart attack at home in Los Angeles late on Thursday night. He was 80.

Born into poverty in a tough Irish area of New York, Burton Stephen Lancaster won a scholarship to *New York University, but* dropped out after two years to become a trapeze artist.

He made more than 70 films and gave unforgettable performances in movies such as *The Birdman of Alcatraz*, *The Swimmer*, *Local Hero* and *The Rose Tattoo*. He was nominated for four academy awards but won only one Oscar, for his performance in *Elmer Gantry*.

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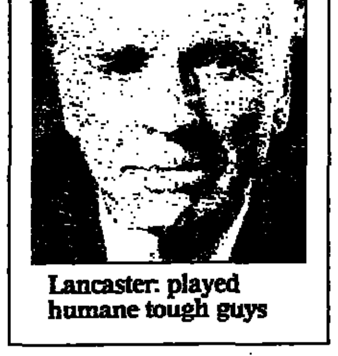

Lancaster: played humane tough guys

Eurostar bosses feel strain of the train

By Staff Reporters

A CHANNEL Tunnel Eurostar train broke down for the second day running today — this time with the bosses of both British Rail and Eurotunnel on board.

The Eurostar company *thought* their embarrassment was complete when a train due to take 400 journalists to Paris on Thursday failed to leave Waterloo station, London. But there was more egg on faces yesterday when one of the £24-million trains developed a technical fault as it reached Calais station on a London-Paris run.

Sir Bob Reid, BR chairman, and Sir Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel joint chairman, were among 400 passengers stuck on the train for two hours. A replacement Eurostar train arrived and passengers were transferred, reaching Paris 2½ hours late.

Commercial passenger services from London to Paris and Brussels are due to start on November 14. Last Friday a Eurostar on a Paris-London test run broke down near Ashford in Kent. A spokesman for European Passenger Services, the UK arm of Eurostar, said last night: "We are still confident we can provide a reliable service when we open for business next month. Today's incident is bad news for us. But we have had a very excellent and successful test programme." Sir Alastair commented: "They were astonishingly efficient in bringing up a reserve train to Calais," and described the problem as teething troubles.

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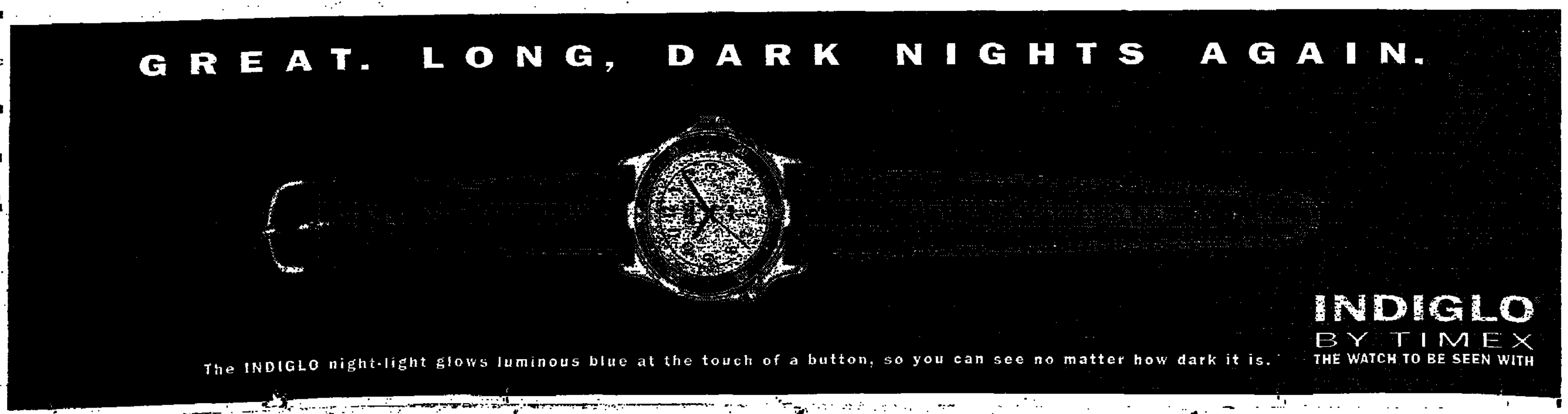

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Dialogue will explore 'practical consequences' of the end to violence

Talks follow 20 years of intermittent contacts

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

THE Government's exploratory talks with Sinn Fein will be the most formal discussions between the two sides in more than 20 years of intermittent contacts.

Officials will follow a formula laid down by Roderic Lyne, John Major's foreign affairs adviser, in a letter to Gerry Adams last April. He told the Sinn Fein president that dialogue would explore how the party could enter full-scale political talks. It would also examine the "practical consequences of the end to violence" which will include demands for the handing over of weapons.

Earlier dialogue, which was conducted through intermediaries and occasionally in face-to-face meetings, invariably floundered because of irreconcilable differences or because contact proved too dangerous politically for either side.

The Government held its most important meeting to date with republicans in July 1972 when a delegation, including Mr Adams and Martin McGuinness was flown to London to meet William Whitelaw, the then Northern Ireland Secretary. The meeting collapsed when the minister rejected their demands for a British withdrawal by 1975.

Senior members of Sinn Fein in Belfast were openly in contact with Government officials in 1975 during the ceasefire which eventually petered out in the autumn. The party, which monitored the ceasefire from a series of "incident centres" in nationalist areas, had a direct line to civil servants to prevent the ceasefire breaking down through misunderstanding.

Whitelaw: meeting broke down in 1972

The Prime Minister shakes the hand of a little boy in Belfast yesterday afternoon. While in the city he announced that the Government was operating on the assumption that the IRA ceasefire was permament

In 1980 and 1981, during the hunger strikes by republican inmates at the Maze Prison near Belfast there were secret contacts between the IRA and the Northern Ireland Office. Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, admitted last November that a secret channel of communication between the republican movement and the Government had existed for years.

The "chain of communications" involved a complex series of intermediaries who carried messages between Sinn Fein and the Northern Ireland Office.

Sir Patrick, who had earlier denied that there had been any contact, said that the Government had written to Sinn Fein in March 1993 after the Provisionals sent a message saying that the "conflict was over" and asking for advice on how to bring it to a close.

Sinn Fein vehemently denied sending such a note and claimed that the Government had re-opened communications in October 1990. The party claimed that the Government had sent an envoy to see Mr McGuinness, a Sinn Fein leader.

Sinn Fein tried to undermine Sir Patrick by publishing a detailed account of the contacts, including documents which did not appear in the Government's account. One report by Sinn Fein of a meeting between a contact and a Government representative purported to outline a Cabinet committee meeting in May last year when ministers allegedly discussed the offer of a two-week IRA ceasefire. This was challenged by the Northern Ireland Office.

In one extraordinary document which did not appear in the Government's account of the contacts, a Government representative allegedly responded to the IRA's temporary ceasefire offer in May 1993 with a letter that declared: "The present position is that the local chairman had accepted your offer, but such a vital economic issue had to go to the board. We had miscalculated in assuming the national chairman would simply give it the nod of approval." The letter apparently referred to Sir Patrick and the Prime Minister.

There were also what Sir Patrick called "unauthorised" face-to-face contacts between Sinn Fein and Foreign Office officials, believed to have been attached MI6. They are thought to have taken place in 1991 and 1992.

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Major pledges Ulster peace talks by Christmas

Continued from page 1
community." He welcomed the loyalist ceasefire and said that the Government would talk to them once they had demonstrtaed their commitment to "exclusively peaceful methods".

In an attempt to assuage fears that the Government will use the ceasefires as an excuse to cut spending, Mr Major said that support would continue because of Northern Ireland's exceptional economic and social difficulties. The Prime Minister will also capitalise on the worldwide interest in Northern Ireland with a large investment conference in Belfast in December. He added that he was confident that the European Union would be providing new money for Northern Ireland on top of the Government's spending.

He said that Northern Ireland faced its best chance in many years of securing peace. In a direct appeal to the people of Northern Ireland, he said: "We must make the price of breaking the peace so high there would be not a shred of sympathy, not a glimmer of support, for anyone who ever contemplated using violence again."

He said that the people of Northern Ireland must establish a just basis for living together, "giving parity of esteems and equality of treatment to both main traditions". He added: "If you want peace, say so now. Loudly. Don't sit back. Join the crusade for the future."

However, he added a note of caution when he said he could not guarantee success. "We have practical obstacles to overcome. Some of them will be difficult. We also have history to overcome and that will be even harder."

Mr Major's speech brought to a close eight weeks of manoeuvring as ministers worked out their response to the IRA ceasefire. The Prime Minister won the backing of the Ulster Unionists with a commitment to hold a referendum on the outcome of inter-party talks and his pledge that ministers had not reached secret deals with the IRA. On Thursday he won the Cabinet's support for yesterday's announcements.

Sinn Fein, which has issued veiled threats that the Government's cautious response to the IRA ceasefire could endander the truce, said it was encouraged by Mr Major's speech. Mr McGuinness said: "At last we have had some forward movement from John Major. Quite clearly we have a situation now where they have shown a degree of imagination which we have been looking for for some considerable time."

Gerry Adams gave the speech a guarded welcome and said he looked forward to "substantive talks".

Mr Reynolds, who will discuss the framework document with Mr Major at Chequers on Monday, said the speech gave much needed momentum to the peace process.

David Trimble, Ulster Unionist MP for Upper Bann, said he was happy for talks with Sinn Fein to begin.

Leading article, page 21

Tories plan review of growing quangos

The Government is preparing to create a special commission to examine the growth of quangos (Michael Dynes writes). The review, which is expected to be announced shortly, is likely to examine the proliferation of quangos over the past ten years. It is also expected to propose ways of reducing their number and making those remaining more accountable, including advertising for top posts.

The commission will be the first root-and-branch examination of the growth of the Government's secondary bureaucracy since Sir Leo Pliatzky was appointed by Margaret Thatcher in 1979 to review the explosion of quangos under Labour in the 1970s. According to Cabinet Office figures, there are 1,389 quangos, down from 2,169 in 1979. However, that figures does not include new bodies which have sprung up since the Tories came to power. A recent survey by Charter 88 claimed that the number of quangos had grown to more than 5,000.

Man shot by police dies

A man suffering from Alzheimer's disease who was shot by police marksmen during a siege at his home in June, has died. Joseph Cowlam, 64, of Huddersfield, was hit by police bullets after reports that a man was brandishing a firearm in front of the house. Mr Cowlam had threatened his wife, Ruth, 63, and a doctor. A Police Complaints Authority report into the incident is still awaited.

Tesco abolishes queues

From Monday, anyone who cannot find a checkout without a queue at any Tesco store should complain immediately to the staff. The supermarket chain has announced that, after a year of trials, it is now prepared to abolish queueing from all Tesco stores. However, the "one-in-front" innovation does not yet apply to the company's William Low stores in Scotland.

Drugs fell from sky

Police and Customs arrested five men after they picked up £500,000 worth of drugs dropped into a Kent field from a light aircraft, a court was told yesterday. Packages containing 55lb of cannabis and 18,600 Ecstasy tablets had been dropped after the pilot was alerted by a flashing yellow light on a car. Four men deny conspiracy to smuggle drugs. A fifth admitted the charges. The trial continues.

Husband still detained

Detectives in Warwickshire continued to question the husband of Carol Wardell, the murdered building society manageress, yesterday. Gordon Wardell, 41, was arrested at his home in Meriden on Thursday. Kenneth Westgarth, his solicitor, said Mr Wardell was co-operating with police, who were conducting a "very detailed interview".

Disney video record

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs is set to become the biggest selling video of all time after more than three million copies were ordered on the first day of its release. The video of the 1937 classic, released on Wednesday, includes scenes cut from the original, an introduction about the making of the film and a book. Disney's *The Jungle Book* held the previous video sales record.

Airport bars livestock

Bournemouth Airport, partly owned by the resort's borough council, yesterday announced a ban on flights of live animals from mid-November after a public outcry had greeted the first flight of an Air Algerie jet taking 200 calves to Amsterdam on Thursday. A livestock ban has been imposed recently by ferry companies along the South Coast.

Flushed with anger

Residents in Alnwick, Northumberland, have signed a petition demanding the removal of a £100,000 electronic lavatory from the town bus station after an 86-year-old woman was sprayed with orange anti-vandal dye when she tried to use it. Other lavatory users have been drenched with jets of water and some have become trapped inside the electronically-controlled cubicle.

Roderick Nicholson

A report (October 19) incorrectly suggested that a defendant accused at Thame magistrates' court of the unauthorised felling of two trees had previously taken advice from Mr Roderick Nicholson, a forestry consultant. Mr Nicholson was unaware that the trees had been felled until he was asked to testify as an expert witness, and never recommended their destruction, contrary to law.

Tory rebels oppose Post Office sell-off

By Alice Tomson, Political Reporter

THE Government is facing a humiliating defeat if it presses ahead with plans to privatise the Post Office after eight backbench Tory MPs signed a motion last night opposing the sell-off.

With a Commons majority of only 14 and the likely opposition of Unionist MPs, Michael Heseltine will have serious problems getting the privatisation Bill through the House unless he can gain the support of the whole party. The President of the Board of Trade put a forceful case at the Tory Party conference for including the privatisation in the forthcoming legislative programme. He has the backing of several heavyweight cabinet ministers including the Chancellor Kenneth Clarke and Douglas Hurd.

A cabinet sub-committee will meet on Monday to decide whether to push ahead with a 51 per cent sell-off of the Royal Mail and Parcelforce. The Prime Minister is expected to make a decision by the end of next week. However, the early day motion makes it clear the Government will receive stiff opposition to the proposed Bill from its backbenches. The motion calls for the Post Office to be retained as an integral organisation in the public sector, endowed with greater commercial freedom.

A poll earlier this month found that 57 per cent of 148 Tory constituency chairmen want the Post office kept in the public sector.

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Gunman sat drinking coffee, waiting for his victims to finish their lunchtime drink

Police fear gang killing as two shot dead in street

By Stewart Tendler and Kathryn Knight

A COLD and calculating gunman sat drinking tea at a corner cafe yesterday, then shot two men dead at point-blank range in what police believe were gangland contract killings.

The gunman was in a sandwich bar in Balham, south London, watching the street outside when the two men, both white, strolled along Cavendish Road after a lunchtime drink at a pub.

He slipped out behind them,

Cramer: heard the shots from her car

pulled a heavy calibre handgun from his pocket and shot each once in the back of the head. As his victims fell the gunman, in his 20s and dressed casually in a baseball cap, jeans and training shoes, ran to a D-registration Vauxhall Cavalier which was later found abandoned and burnt-out in nearby Streatham.

Last night, one senior Scotland Yard detective said the murders bore all the hallmarks of contract killings linked to gangland disputes. A senior local officer, Commander Thomas Williamson, said: "It could have been a gangland killing. This appears to be a very cold blooded killing. It was an execution. The killer was inside for quite some time and we appeal to anyone who saw him to contact us."

The man leading the investigation into the shootings, Detective Superintendent David Donne, said the killings were "obviously very well planned. There must have been a specific motive but we don't know what it is yet."

The two victims had been drinking at the Prince of Wales pub, near Clapham Common, where they were regulars. Steven McKenna, the landlord, said: "I heard a bit of commotion outside and went to have a look.

"Two men were lying on the footpath across the road. By the time I got there, someone had covered their heads with a tea towel. It looked like they had been shot through the head."

"We are speculating on who the victims are at the moment. If they are who we think they are they are family men. They were gentlemen."

Dawn Dickson, a barmaid, said: " I heard two shots. I went out and saw two bodies just lying there in a pool of blood. One of the men's faces was pure blood."

Wendy Cramer, 34, a personal assistant from West Norwood, south London, was waiting in the road to have her car mended at Cavendish Motors. She said: "I was sitting in my car reading a book when I heard two shots. I thought it couldn't possibly be shooting, but then I heard someone scream.

"I looked round and it was *the girl from the cafe* called The Sandwich Shop next to the garage.

"She was running out and she was the first to get to the bodies. I tried the pulses on their necks and wrists and *they were still alive, but they* had both been shot in the head and they were both in a terrible mess."

Ms Cramer added: "There was no shouting or screaming or noise from the men. They both seemed quite ordinary, in their 60s or possibly late 50s. They were both white and unshaven and not particularly well-dressed. They were *scruffy. One had a duffle coat* on, the other had brown corduroy trousers. It was absolutely horrific. I was shaking like a leaf.

"Neither was conscious, and they were both very still. I *thought they must be dead. It* would be difficult to believe anybody could be alive with wounds like that.

"Parts of their heads were just blown away. We tried to move the one with the strongest pulse on to his side, into the recovery position, but they were both dead by the time the police and ambulance arrived a few minutes later."

She added that the people in the cafe said they thought the killer had been in there shortly before the shooting. He was reportedly quite agitated and got angry with the staff as he ordered a cup of tea. He was *sitting by the window, then* suddenly walked out and the shots were fired almost immediately afterwards.

Ms Cramer said the cafe customers felt he had been sitting waiting for the men to walk by.

The Sandwich Shop proprietor, Roy Lewis, said: "Apparently the killer had been inside having a cup of tea until he saw the two men walking towards my shop."

Scotland Yard has warned that criminals are increasingly using guns to settle arguments, often provoked by disputes over drug deals.

Since the start of the 1990s, the London underworld has been plagued by killings, many of which remain unsolved. A week ago Robert Magill, a car dealer, was blasted with a shotgun as he walked his dog near his fortified home in Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

The day before the killings, Thursday, was the first anniversary of the murder of *Police* Constable Patrick Dunne, who was shot on Cato Road, not far from the scene of the yesterday's murders.

The bodies of the two victims, covered over where they fell after each was shot once in the back of the head

American pair jailed over drug factory

TWO Americans who set up a huge illegal drugs factory were jailed yesterday. The factory in a garage at an isolated rented bungalow at Harvel, Kent, produced £2 million worth of amphet*amines each day.*

The vast quantities of ingredients were mixed using the outboard motors of speedboats, Maidstone Crown Court was told. Thomas Beaver, 52, from San Diego, California, and Joseph McGill, 54, from River Ridge, Louisiana, both denied setting up the factory to manufacture illicit drugs. McGill was jailed for 14 years and Beaver for six years. Both will be deported at a later stage.

The pair were caught after Dr Nathan Schlecter, a chemist from Houston, Texas, turned informer. Schlecter admitted being involved in the production of drugs and will be sentenced later.

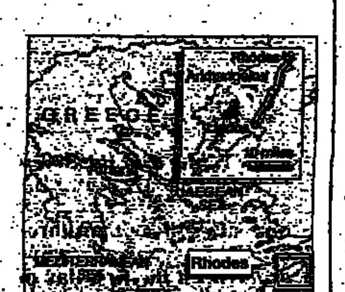
He told the jury he was approached by McGill in the United States for technical advice over the drug-making operation. He ordered equipment from suppliers using fake company names.

Police raided the factory after a tip-off and in December 1990 four men were jailed for their roles in the operation. After prolonged court battles here and in America, McGill and Beaver were brought to Britain to stand trial.

Detective Sergeant Gordon Jarvis was commended by Judge Balston for his work in smashing the drug ring.

Holiday couples drown in flash flood on Rhodes

By John Carr in Athens and Bill Frost



TWO British couples who regularly went on holiday together died after their hired car was swept away during flash flooding on the Greek island of Rhodes.

Police said that Roland Daniel, 63, and his wife Anne, 61, drowned with Eric and Diane Flux, both 54, as a violent storm destroyed the road. Mrs and Mrs Flux, from Portsmouth, were due to celebrate their 34th wedding anniversary yesterday.

The couples were travelling to the resort of Lindos on Thursday when the weather deteriorated sharply. Torrential rain washed away the road near the village of Arkhangelos and their car was carried off "within seconds". The car and the four bodies were found later in a flooded field.

Their car is thought to have stopped before the accident at a point *where two tour buses* full of British holidaymakers were parked. The bus crews are believed to have told the couples that the road ahead was impassable but the Daniels said they knew of an alternative road and, against the advice of people at the scene, continued their journey.

Another tourist staying with them in the Hotel Ibiscus said it was not yet clear what happened. Margaret Gwynne said: "As far as we can understand the road subsided and I think they must have hit it before they realised what had happened."

The Daniels' son Graham and daughter-in-law Heather were *said to be too shocked* last night to comprehend the tragedy. "We still do not know what really happened. It seems incredible," said Heather Graham, 30, at her home in Pontarddulais, West Glamorgan.

Eric and Diane Flux: died on eve of anniversary

Murder charge pair obsessed with Forces

By Richard Duce

AN OBSESSION with the military that drove a student to kill a stranger, believing it to be an SAS initiation test, was detailed to an Old Bailey jury yesterday.

Jamie Petrolini had set his sights on an officer career but was turned down, while studying at Gordonstoun, for a sixth-form scholarship after he was found to be inarticulate and immature.

While resitting his A-levels at crammer school in Oxford last year Mr Petrolini, 19, applied to join two different regiments.

It is alleged that, together with fellow student Richard Elsey, Mr Petrolini murdered Mohammed el-Sayed, 44, in Bayswater, central London, on January 14.

The prosecution claims that Mr Petrolini believed Mr Elsey had SAS connections, and *could help him* with his military career if he carried out the "ultimate dare" of killing a stranger.

In taped interviews played to the jury, Mr Petrolini said his ambition at Gordonstoun was to join the Royal Marines and he described how he and Mr Elsey climbed a tower crane in Oxford as part of "height training".

Both were arrested after that incident, but Mr Petrolini said he regarded the experience as "resistance to interrogation training".

Mr Petrolini of Grantown-on-Spey, Highlands, and Mr Elsey of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, deny murder. Mr Petrolini has admitted manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. The case continues on Monday.

Argument at pub karaoke night leaves two dead

By Stewart Tendler, crime correspondent

A KARAOKE evening in a quiet seaside public house ended with a fight, two young men shot dead and four people being questioned last night by murder detectives.

The bodies of the two men were discovered at the Star Gazer in Selsey, West Sussex, yesterday after police were called to the pub, which is named after Patrick Moore, the astronomer, who lives near by. Jason Connors, 22, a fisherman, and Sean Farrelly, 24, a scaffolder, both of Selsey, were shot in the back garden of the pub with a pump action shotgun. An argument began after closing time and spilled out into the garden, where the bodies were found near a camel-shaped slide.

Detective Superintendent Paul Westwood, who is heading the murder investigation, said the shootings followed an argument in the pub after a karaoke evening. He said: "There was an altercation after closing time, but we don't know what that was about."

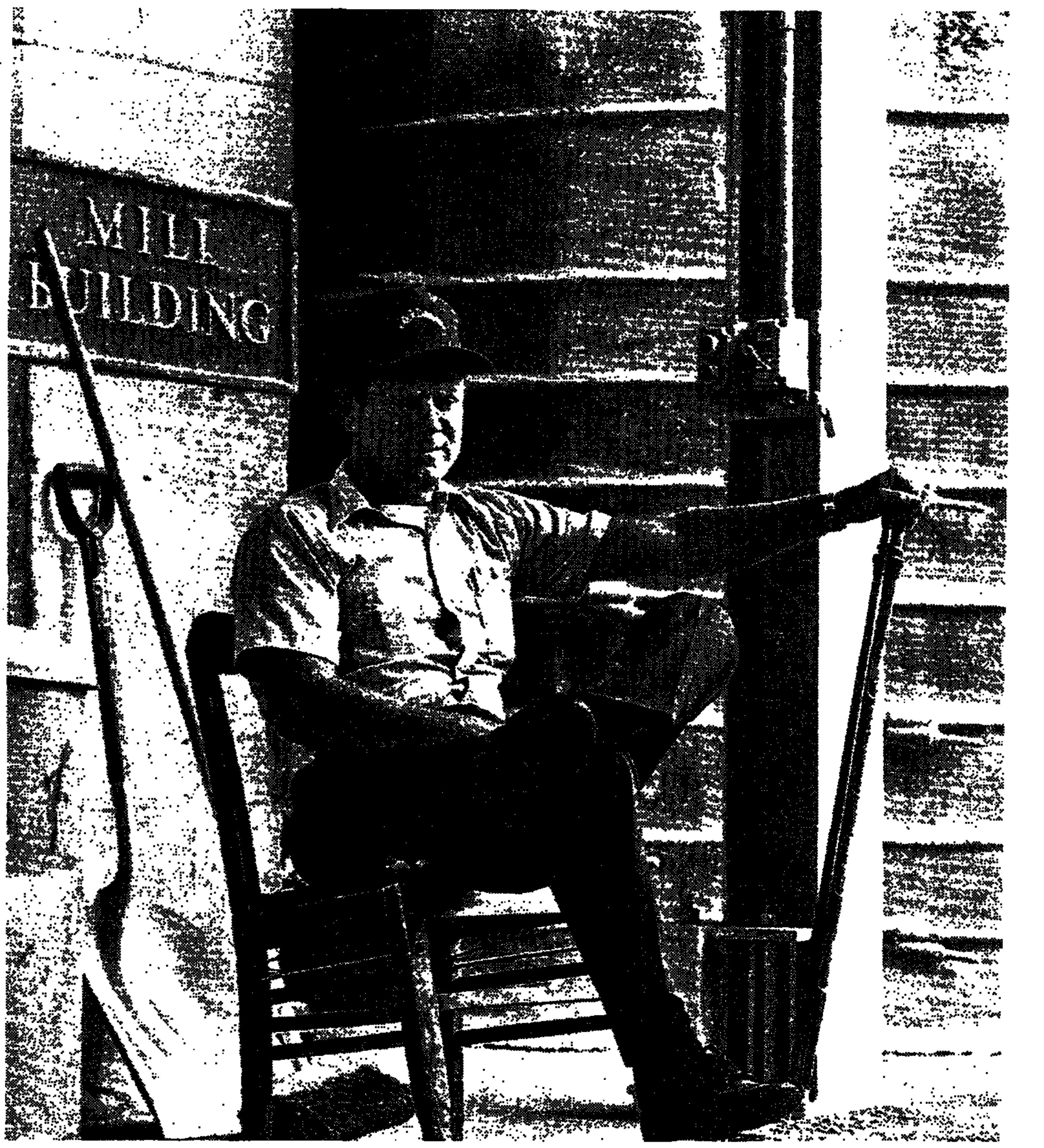
Police were alerted to the incident at just after 1am and found the two bodies lying in the public house's back garden. Another officer said: "It seems amazing that things can get to this point over an argument in a local pub. It makes me wonder what the world is coming to."

Wayne Crisp, 19, said: "I was lying in bed when, sometime after midnight, we heard a couple of muffled bangs. At the time, *I though they* sounded suspicious, but I thought they might be something to do with the lifeboat station."

Hours later police marksmen wearing flak jackets surrounded two houses in a close in the East Beach area of Selsey about four roads from the public house. Residents said that among those arrested were a man aged in his 50s, and his teenage son.

A police spokesman said *one man had been released* from police custody as detectives continued the hunt for the weapon used in the shootings.

Tony Roach, 23, said: "I was walking down the road and I saw loads of armed police surrounding one of the houses. The police kept shouting for the people inside to *come out and they came out* one at a time, and the police put them on the ground and handcuffed them. I can't believe it has happened in a quiet place like this."



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Commons watchdog group decided it had 'no wish and no authority' to investigate

MPs' committee ignored report over stay at Ritz

By Jill Sherman
Political Correspondent

THE all-party Commons Committee on Members' Interests decided last year that it did not want to investigate reports that Neil Hamilton spent a week at the Ritz in Paris at Mohamed Al-Fayed's expense.

Correspondence obtained by *The Times* yesterday shows that when details of Mr Hamilton's £4,000 stay at the Ritz in 1987 were disclosed in *The Guardian* in October 1993, the committee had neither the desire nor the authority to investigate the issue, even though an MP raised the matter at a committee meeting. Although gifts and hospitality are expected to be entered in the register of members interests, the committee decided not to pursue the issue.

Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, chairman of the committee, wrote to Mr Hamilton on November 24, 1993: "There was no wish on the Committee's part to investigate the allegation made in the article — indeed we have no authority to do so in the absence of a specific and formal complaint."

Sir Geoffrey: "There was no wish to investigate"

Sir Geoffrey's response came after comments by Mr Hamilton in *The Guardian* on October 5 last year when he justified his decision not to enter the visit in the register of members interests.

"There is more attention to the subject of registration of interests today than there was six years ago," Mr Hamilton told *The Guardian*. "The visit was, in effect, to a private residence and therefore the question of registering the interest did not, I believe, arise."

In his letter Sir Geoffrey reproved Mr Hamilton for this implied criticism of the committee. "Some concern was expressed at the tone of the comments attributed to you, in particular the implication that in 1987 members did not pay close attention to the rules of registration," he wrote.

"The primary motive of the House when it established the register in 1974-75 was to reassure the public, in the aftermath of the Poulson affair, that the House of Commons was not corrupt. If members of the House, particularly Ministers, are seen to treat its requirements lightly or negligently that purpose will be frustrated and demands for more stringent restrictions on members' outside activities will grow."

In his reply, dated December 12, Mr Hamilton said that he had no intention of casting doubt on the seriousness with which members treated the register in 1987. However, he suggests that MPs are now more likely to declare gifts because of changes in public opinion and because the rules have become tougher. "The point that I was trying to convey was that members have become more meticulous over the years and are now more likely to resolve doubts in favour of declaration. I was not saying that members have ever treated the register in a cavalier fashion."

The register shows that the committee now adopts a tougher approach to gifts than it did in 1987. By 1994 the rules were tightened to impose a cash limit on non-registered gifts. Under a new section, "Gifts, benefits and hospitality", the register calls for "the registration of any gift or material advantage received by the member or the member's spouse ... which in any way relates to membership of the House."

Terry Lewis, Labour MP for Worsley and a member of the committee, said yesterday that it was not proactive enough and should have powers to investigate without waiting for a complaint.

Complaint registered, page 1
Simon Jenkins and David Selbourne, page 20
Leading article and Letters, page 21

BRIAN HATTON

Tim Smith with his wife Jennifer outside their home in Buckinghamshire

Howard cousin denies link

Continued from page 1
ionship with Mr Landy after an article in *The Guardian* yesterday by Peter Preston, its editor. Mr Preston wrote that Mr Al-Fayed "will wax indignant about Michael Howard. Al-Fayed thinks that a conflict of interest which ought to have been declared, rightly or wrongly, wasn't."

Yesterday friends of Mr Howard poured scorn on the suggestion describing it as "ludicrous". Mr Landy also ridiculed the idea. "I never spoke to him once either by telephone or face to face during the Harrods takeover inquiry. Why would I? It is muck-racking if anyone suggests anything else. Mr Al-Fayed is a very bitter man."

London City & Westcliff was acquired in a public takeover 20 years ago. The company's most recent accounts show assets of £17 million. Tiny Rowland is the chairman. Mr Landy said that he had been friends with Mr Rowland for 30 years. "He is a good and loyal friend in the same way Michael Howard is a good and honourable politician."

The Home Office last night refused to discuss Mr Al-Fayed's British citizenship application, which is still pending. Field Marshal Lord Bramall, a former Chief of Defence Staff, confirmed that he had sponsored the application. Lord Bramall said: "I was prepared to sponsor him because he has done a lot for this country. He has given his life to England. I don't know why he hasn't been granted citizenship yet. I think he thinks someone has got it in for him at the Home Office."

Lord Bramall, who used to chair the Dorchester which was run by Mr Al-Fayed for the Sultan of Brunei, had used his influence with the sultan to try to ensure he always bought British.

"Michael Heseltine and I were sent from No 10 Downing Street to get Mr Al-Fayed to help. And he did."

Beleaguered MP takes the biscuit

By Alice Thomson and Kate Alderson

NEIL Hamilton accepted the gift of a ginger biscuit yesterday and immediately promised to declare it on the Register of Members' Interests. The beleaguered minister of trade was showing few signs of strain as he made a brief appearance at Wilmslow High School in Cheshire with his wife Christine.

"They've given me a reward for coming this morning. I shall of course be registering the biscuit on the register," he said, waving the biscuit at journalists before eating it.

In reference to allegations that Mr Hamilton had stayed at Mohamed Al-Fayed's Ritz Hotel in Paris free of charge, he was asked if the biscuit was a Ritz cracker. Mr Hamilton smiled. "It's a ginger biscuit, it's full of spice."

But he refused to go further into the question of whether he had received any payments from Mr Al-Fayed. "All I will say at the moment is that I am very grateful to those constituents who have telephoned or written or sent messages of support to me," he said.

As Mr Hamilton, MP for Tatton, Cheshire, left his £550,000 Victorian home in Nether Alderley, for his visit to the school he told reporters that he had the full support of the Prime Minister and rejected any suggestion that he should resign.

Tim Smith, the former Northern Ireland minister, who resigned on Thursday, was as characteristically reticent as Mr Hamilton was jovial. Arriving back from Belfast on Thursday night he immediately went to see his constituency chairman in Beaconsfield before returning to the family home in Battersea, southwest London, at 11 in the morning to walk his pekinese. He posed calmly for photographers with his wife Jennifer and said: "We would just like to say I made what was obviously a painful personal decision in the interests of the Government and the Prime Minister."

He added: "We are now looking to have a couple of quiet days and then I am looking forward to reassuming my duties as a constituency MP." He replied "no comment" when reporters asked him about allegations over his relationship with the Al-Fayed brothers.

MORE ON MONDAY

TIMES SPORT

13 pages of sports reporting

MORE FOOTBALL

Rob Hughes in Blackburn as Manchester United try to revive Premiership ambitions

MORE RUGBY LEAGUE

Simon Barnes at Wembley for the first Test match, Great Britain v Australia

MORE GOLF

John Hopkins in West Virginia to watch Laura Davies at the Solheim Cup

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QC accuses Old Bailey judge of bullying a third defendant who now faces a retrial

IRA men jailed for 25 years after terror campaign

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

THE first two IRA terrorists convicted at the Old Bailey since the IRA ceasefire were jailed for 25 years each yesterday for a bombing campaign across London.

After an investigation and prosecution hailed as an example of the new co-operation between Scotland Yard and MI5, Gerard Mackin, 33, and Derek Doherty, 23, both of no fixed address, were convicted of conspiracy to cause an explosion.

Mr Justice Alliott, sentencing the men, said: "It is no thanks to you that members of the public were not killed or maimed. I see no reason to distinguish between you."

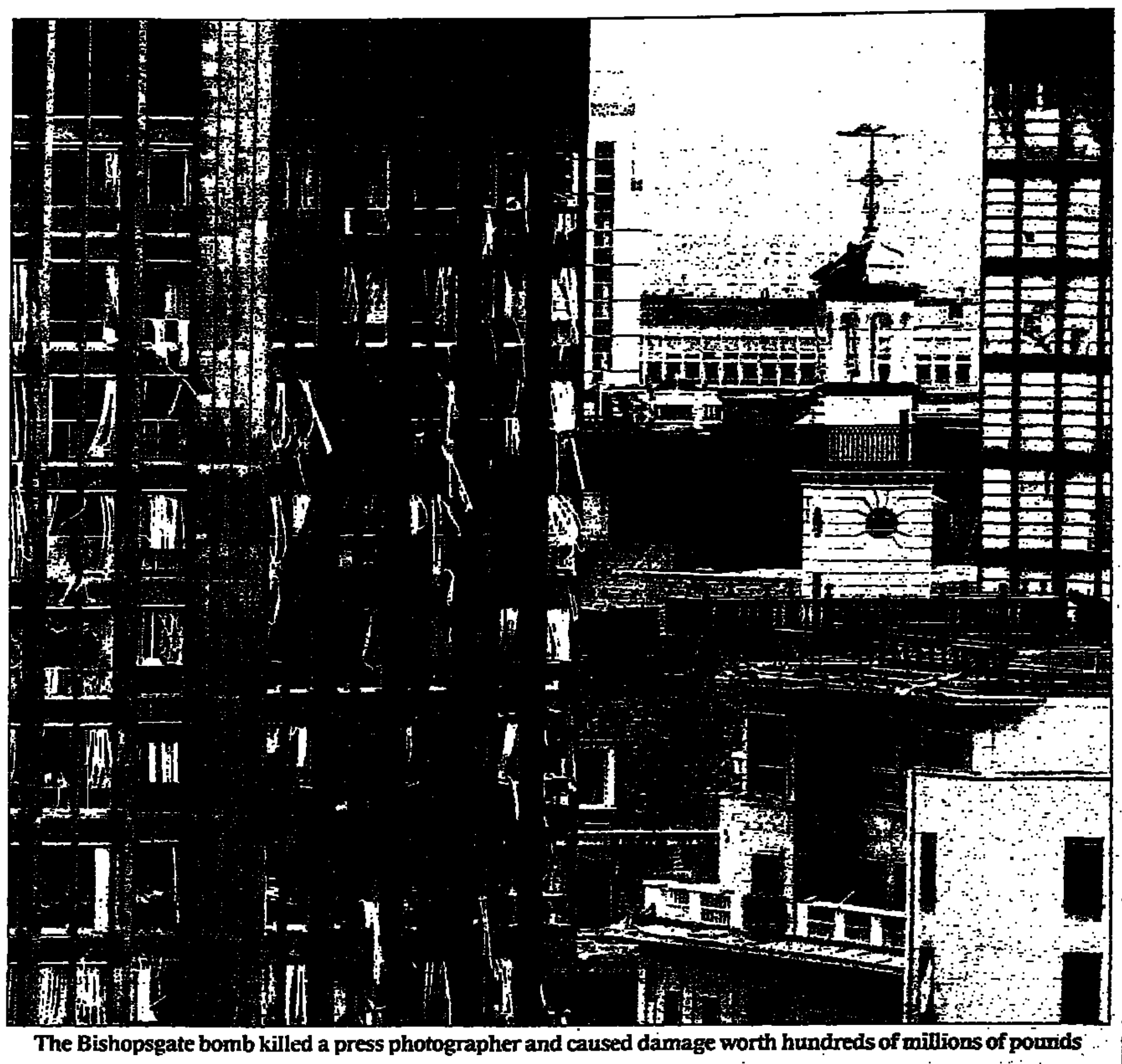
The jury could not agree a verdict on a third man. Thomas McAuley, 37, a plasterer from Tottenham, north London, who now faces a retrial. During the case Mr McAuley's counsel, Ronald Thwaites, QC, accused the judge of bullying and badgering Mr McAuley during his evidence. Mr Thwaites said Mr Justice Alliott had sent signals to the jury that he did not like Mr McAuley or believe a word of his case.

In his final speech to the jury, Mr Thwaites told them: "The judge has been hyperactive throughout the case. He has climbed into the boxing ring time after time and in doing so has not done his job as the referee of the case. He has been delivering blows for the prosecution."

The jury of seven men and five women convicted Mackin and Docherty of taking part in a bombing plot in which 12 bombs were planted in seven days. Two of the bombs did not explode and members of the public and police had lucky escapes after coming across devices.

Nigel Sweeney, for the prosecution, said no one was seriously injured by the attacks but there was widespread damage.

Derek Doherty, left, and Gerard Mackin, the first IRA men tried at the Old Bailey since the ceasefire



The Bishopsgate bomb killed a press photographer and caused damage worth hundreds of millions of pounds

Bomber held after 'bizarre coincidence' at Bishopsgate

By Richard Ford
Home Correspondent

GERARD Mackin, jailed yesterday for his role as the leader of an IRA active service unit, was tailed by MI5 for months and arrested as a suspect after the Bishopsgate bombing.

On the morning of the bomb in the City of London in April 1993, Mackin and the surveillance team watching him were within 200 yards of the site of the explosion. Detectives have found no evidence linking him to the blast, which killed a press photographer. Mackin was released from custody and fled to Ireland. In September 1993, he slipped back into England to activate an IRA active service unit. During the campaign, a police officer and two members of the public had lucky escapes when they handled the plastic bags containing the bombs.

The terrorists had been trained by the IRA in anti-surveillance techniques worthy of a John Le Carré thriller. On journeys they would double back, slow down suddenly and check behind them constantly.

Mackin, 33, was a second division terrorist with links to more important IRA men. A Belfast man, he had a history of petty crime but no convictions for terrorist offences. Nonetheless after his arrival in Britain he became a police and MI5 target.

On the morning of the Bishopsgate blast they were watching him when he went to work for the water board. Police believe his presence close by must have been a bizarre coincidence. In the aftermath of the huge bomb, Mackin was held for questioning and explosives traces were found on two vehicles to which he had access. Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch and MI5 knew a prosecution might not stick, so decided to let him "run" to see if he would lead them to bigger targets.

He reappeared in London last autumn with Derek Doherty, 23, from Dublin. The source for their explosives was waiting for them at a cargo depot near Heathrow. Kilograms of Semtex are thought to have been hidden in a gearbox, which had come to Britain by road and sea.

On October 1, the gearbox was picked up. Within hours four explosive devices were planted in Finchley Road, north London. Three exploded early on October 2. The fourth was found after police on an unconnected surveillance spotted a man with a hood leave a plastic bag behind a hoarding.

Two days later, on October 4, six devices were placed in Tottenham Lane, Archway Road and Highgate High Street. One was found by a pedestrian, who saw a dog sniffing a plastic back and looked inside. He saw what he thought was a home-made alarm clock and attempted to remove the batteries. He fled and the bomb exploded minutes later.

Three days after the explosion, information from MI5 sparked a surveillance operation on Mackin. At one point the surveillance team lost their quarry. Two bombs exploded at West End Lane. Another was found after a student waiting at a bus stop saw a man carry a plastic bag up an alley and reappear without it.

Hours later police detained Mackin and Doherty at a truck stop near the M54 in Staffordshire. Doherty's clothes had traces of explosive indicating that he had made a bomb in his lap. Behind a panel in the bath of a London flat police found a terrorist arsenal including five kilograms of Semtex, ten detonators, 16 incendiary devices, a loaded Smith and Wesson revolver, ammunition, a soldering iron, and circuit testers.

Customs abandon watch on £7m drugs

Customs officials who kept watch on a 50kg stash of amphetamines for two weeks after it was discovered by a local man in woods near Southwold, Suffolk, suspended the operation when they realised nobody was going to pick it up. The class B controlled drug is estimated to be worth up to £7 million.

Brothers die

Paul Thomas, 23, and Kathleen Duff, 15, died when the stolen Vauxhall Cavalier that Thomas was driving hit a bridge at Alvaston, Derby, after colliding with a Ford Escort XR3i driven by his brother Gary, 27. Two other men in the Cavalier were seriously ill in hospital.

John banned

The former Wales and British Lions fly-half, Barry John, was banned from driving for 18 months and fined £450 by Cardiff magistrates for failing to provide a breath test. John, 49, had said he was stopped on a private road.

Car kills owner

Parmanand Mehersh, 67, died after being run over by his VW Golf as he tried to stop it rolling down a hill outside a friend's house in Salisbury. Mr Mehersh, from West Bromwich, stumbled and fell.

Aerial invasion

Pigeon droppings have encrusted a police radio mast so badly at Kirkham, Lancashire, that patrol cars in the area are unable to communicate with the station. Police are installing a model owl on the roof to clear the birds.

The Magazine

Some overseas editions of *The Times* on Saturday do not contain copies of the *Magazine*, which is available on subscription. Telephone inquiries to 071 782 6129 or by fax to 071 782 6130.

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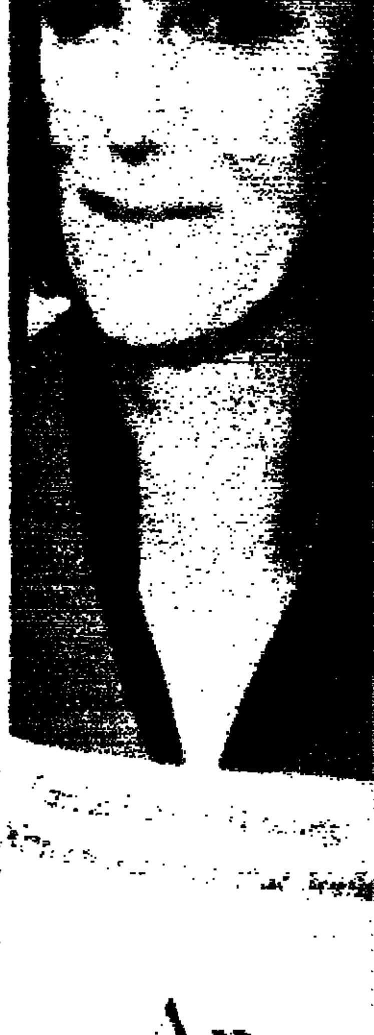

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

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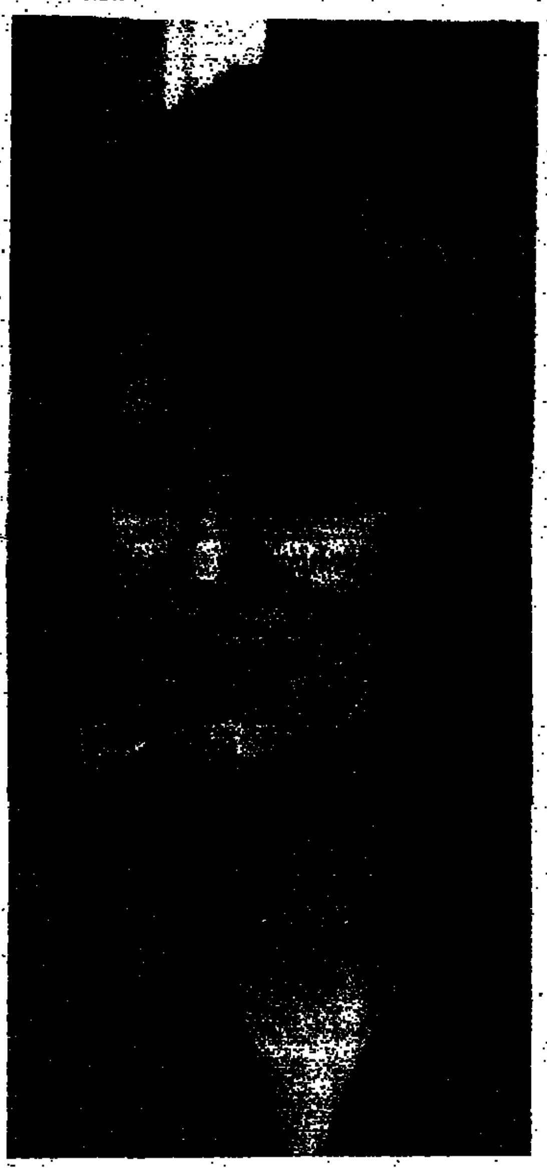

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Westminster hearing told of moves to target home sales

Council officials 'warned Porter of abusing power'

By Ian Murray

DAME Shirley Porter was given a warning that she was in danger of breaking the law and being surcharged for "abusive power" by Westminster council's senior officers when she asked if she could sell council houses to likely Tory voters.

The warnings about the alleged "homes for votes" policy were in reports read out at Marylebone Town Hall yesterday by Andrew Arden, QC, representing the objectors who asked the district auditor to investigate. The auditor, John Magill, has provisionally found that Dame Shirley and nine others were acting illegally and should be surcharged £21.25 million, which the policy cost local taxpayers. Mr Arden said the policy was aimed at selling homes in what became euphemistically known as "key wards" inside the council.

Robert Lewis, the city solicitor, was nervous about the use of that phrase. "Key wards had crept into common parlance in the council as a love that dare not speak its name."

Dame Shirley: was told of surcharge risks

he told the auditor during an interview. "Key" was the euphemism for the eight marginal wards that the Conservatives needed to hold if they were to win the 1990 local elections, Mr Arden said.

Aware that problems might arise if the council designated homes for sale only in those eight wards, Dame Shirley sent a list of questions to Graham England, the housing director, and to Mr Lewis in April 1987. One asked bluntly how they could achieve the "target voter figures" in the wards. Others asked what was being done to create "voids", or empty property that could be sold.

Mr Lewis was specifically asked if the policy could be changed by the courts and if there was a danger of a surcharge. Mr England replied that if the sales target of 490 homes a year were achieved there would not be enough accommodation available for the homeless the council had to accommodate, and nothing at all for medical priority cases for young people brought up in Westminster.

Since the council found that the number of homeless was rising all the time, those needing to go into bed and breakfast accommodation would increase constantly while the sales policy would mean there were ever fewer homes available for them. B&B was already costing the council £3 million a year.

The solicitors' department replied that the policy would need to be argued carefully if it were introduced. "Anything which smacks of political machination will be viewed with great suspicion by the courts." The council needed to "devise legitimate arguments", otherwise there was a risk of people involved being surcharged for wilfully introducing a policy through "abuse of power".

Dame Shirley had ordered a report on housing from a Cambridge consultancy which she hoped would produce an argument for "building stable communities" by selling houses. In another report, Mr England described the survey as "a smokescreen".

In May 1987, the Westminster Housing Trust was set up by the council to co-ordinate the sales of property in the borough. According to Nick Reiter, the head of the council's policy unit, this was done as a device. He told the auditor in an interview that the idea was "to sanitise what might be otherwise politically motivated".

He said the trust would be able to do things which the council could not do, such as discriminating who qualified to buy a council property.

Site buildings collide with each other after the landslip into the new Underground express tunnel at Heathrow

Heathrow landslide causes chaos

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

PASSENGERS using Heathrow Airport were warned last night to expect severe congestion for several days following a landslip on a construction site which caused the roof to collapse on the new Underground station.

The accident occurred in the early hours of the morning when a hole suddenly appeared 60ft above the main terminal station for the new £300 million Heathrow to Paddington Express link being built below ground. No one was hurt, but 25 workmen were evacuated after their monitoring system picked up abnormal ground movements. Temporary site buildings were damaged, but airport buildings were unaffected.

As an inquiry was launched into the incident, officials warned passengers that they faced severe delays over the weekend. London Underground services will run into Terminals 1, 2 and 3, but the Terminal 4 station was being served only by a coach link from Hatton Cross.

A spokesman for the British Airports Authority said the Terminal 3 car park would remain closed until the middle of next week until the hole could be filled and engineers were satisfied that the site was safe. He said roads in and around the airport would be congested for the next three or four days.

A Heathrow spokesman said: "Passengers travelling to the airport must expect delays and should leave extra time to complete their journeys."

When completed, the rail link will take travellers from London's Paddington station to Heathrow in 16 minutes. Work on tunnelling began in February this year and the link is due to be completed in 1997.

Contract killer 'shot man at home'

THE owner of off-licence was murdered by a hitman outside his home, possibly on the orders of a relative, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

James Curtis, QC, for the prosecution, told the court that David Avis, the alleged contract-killer, shot Roger Wilson, 46, of Kennington, south London, at close range. Mr Avis, a 5ft 2in delivery service controller, from Rotherhithe, southeast London, denies murdering Mr Wilson in March last year. Mr Curtis said Mr Avis had told a cellmate while on remand that he had been paid to kill Mr Wilson by an unnamed member of the family.

Before the shooting, Mr Wilson had left his off-licence in Kennington, leaving his wife in charge. Mr Curtis said she later received a telephone call which made her hurry home, where she found her husband fatally wounded. He died in hospital.

The hitman was said to have driven away on a motorcycle. Mr Curtis said Mr Avis had admitted owning a motorcycle and clothing found later, but denied to police that he was the killer. The trial continues.

Surgeons save dog's sight with lasers

KIPLING, a black labrador, has become the first animal in Britain to undergo laser surgery to save its eyesight. In a collaboration between vets and eye doctors, the five-year-old dog was treated with lasers to cure a cancerous tumour on its iris that could have led to it losing its sight.

The dog, which belongs to Maureen Parker, of South Mimms, Hertfordshire, had more than 4,000 applications of the Microlase laser, normally used to treat human eye conditions such as glaucoma. Gareth Jones, Kipling's vet, persuaded Moorfields Eye Hospital in central London to lend him the laser, which is worth £32,000. He worked with Peter Hamilton, consultant eye surgeon at Moorfields, to perform the surgery at The Royal Veterinary College in Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

Mrs Parker, 50, said that Kipling was recovering well. "He is such a brave dog that we knew he would get through it. Without the treatment he would have lost the eye and might have died."

Heart hopes, page 11

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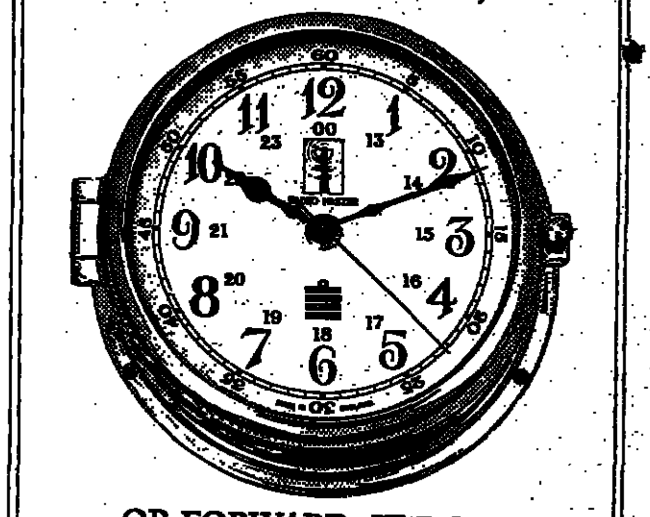

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Jaguar staff risk strike after wage deal rejected

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

WORKERS at Jaguar yesterday threw out an inflation-breaking wage deal that would have kept them among the best-paid manual staff in the motor industry.

Union leaders who negotiated the two-year 8.7 per cent deal, nearly double the rate of inflation, were shocked by the overwhelming rejection by the 3,500 workers and are now faced with the prospect of having to call a strike neither they nor Jaguar want.

The package was thought to be one of the best available in any industry and comes at a time when thousands of health and local government workers have been told that they will have to go without wage rises this year. Any sign of industrial unrest will ring alarm bells at the American headquarters of Ford, the company's owner, and could swing the decision in favour of manufacturing Jaguars outside Britain for the first time.

Workers on the assembly lines at Jaguar's plants at Coventry and Birmingham would have been earning an average £268 a week basic pay before bonuses from November 1, £8 a week more than Rover workers, who settled their claim earlier this month. It seems that the deal stumbled because workers refused to comply with a clause that gives Jaguar the right to decide how much overtime is needed. Sixty per cent of workers voted against because they were worried that they would be forced to work extra hours to cover for staff shortages, the workforce having been halved during the recession.

Leaders representing the three main unions recommended the package and were said to be baffled last night as to what their next move should be. They believe they softened the overtime clause enough to be acceptable but privately say that the cash element, which would add £11 a week to wages from next November, was a good bargain from a company that had lost £800 million in five years.

Duncan Simpson, divisional organiser for the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, said: "I will now be discussing this with the executive council to consider a ballot for industrial action." However, a fresh round of talks next week is the most likely outcome of yesterday's decision. A strike would be considered suicidal within the motor industry, particularly when Jaguar's future is about to be decided.

Ford is trying to decide where to build a new medium-sized Jaguar to compete with the Mercedes C-class and BMW 5-Series. The investment would be at least £500 million and could create hundreds of jobs, but Ford executives are considering whether to build the car in America, which will be the biggest market for the model.

Nick Scheele, Jaguar's chairman, is pushing for the new Jaguar, codenamed X200, to be built in Coventry but his case will be weakened if the workforce refuses to toe the line. He had been confident of a quick resolution after offering a deal widely seen as generous, but he now faces a drawn-out battle.

Scheele: had hoped for a quick deal on pay

Airline pilots can fly on until 65

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

AIRLINE pilots who reach the age of 60 are no longer too old to fly, according to the Civil Aviation Authority. It has decided that commercial pilots can command a passenger jet until the age of 65, provided someone younger than 60 is in the co-pilot's seat and is linked by a dual-control system to the captain.

Years of medical research has shown that a pilot of 62 or 63 is just as likely to survive a difficult flight, and complete it in a safe and professional manner, as someone five years his or her junior. Checks of pilots' health has shown that captains over 60 often have fewer symptoms of stress than younger colleagues. The CAA has acted in advance of a European-wide ruling which is likely to approve the licencing of pilots of both sexes until their 65th birthday.

The rules will affect 119 British pilots this year, 114 next and will rise to 213 in the year 2000. British Airways will continue to insist, however, that pilots retire at 55. "Our pilots retire at 55 because they have done so since the war," a BA spokesman said. "We have a lot of long-service co-pilots waiting for promotion to captain and if we were to put off the retirement age of senior captains their chances would be even further off."

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Street parties to mark VE Day

By John Young

THE fiftieth anniversaries of the end of the second world war in Europe and in the Far East will be recalled and celebrated over the weekends of May 6-8 and August 19-20 next year.

The programme will not be announced until January, but the VE Day weekend is expected to begin with a gathering of veterans in Hyde Park and a dinner at the Guildhall for the heads of states of all nations which took part in the war in Europe, including the former Axis powers.

On Sunday May 7 there will be a service in St Paul's and an international youth parade in London. The Bank Holiday, switched to May 8, is expected to see many street parties.

On August 19 there will be a Drumhead service in Hyde Park or Trafalgar Square and British and Commonwealth veterans will parade past the Cenotaph, with an RAF fly-past. An evening firework display is planned on the Thames.

Events on Sunday August 20 will include parades, church services, beating the retreat and sunset ceremonies in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast.

VE Day being celebrated in May 1945. Next year the fiftieth anniversary is likely to include a gathering of veterans in Hyde Park and a service in St Paul's Cathedral

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Portillo and Lilley plan shift away from something-for-nothing benefits

Workfare at heart of scheme to cut jobless

By Jill Sherman and Nicholas Wood

BRITAIN's first national workfare-style scheme will be unveiled by Michael Portillo and Peter Lilley on Monday with the publication of a White Paper marking a radical shift in the Government's approach to tackling unemployment.

The Employment Secretary and the Social Security Secretary will announce plans to change the law to give the employment service an unfettered right to cut or withdraw benefits if claimants refuse to take up work or places on training courses.

The proposals will trigger a fierce political battle, because on the same day Labour is expected to publish the findings of its Social Justice Commission, which will also focus on incentives to cut unemployment. Ministers are prepared to take on Labour if its leaders reject the idea of an end to "something for nothing" welfare.

Although the sanctions will initially apply only to the long-term jobless — those out of work for a year or more — and will not be invoked in every case, the new powers amount to a significant tightening of the benefits regime and a big step beyond limiting the workfare idea to small pilot schemes.

"The whole purpose of this is to change the ethos so that people are deliberately kept in touch with the labour market rather than assuming that unemployment is a way of life," a senior Whitehall source said.

Under the new approach, claimants can be required to attend one of the Government's many training courses and other back-to-work schemes or to report for work on a "community action" scheme for which they are paid £10 on top of their benefit for jobs such as planting trees or helping to care for the elderly.

The requirement could apply both to the "workshy" and to genuine job-seekers who are judged in need of relearning the habit of work and of experiencing the discipline of turning up at the same place and at the same time every day. However, ministers say that they are not imposing a blanket workfare-style scheme on all long-term jobless.

The essence of the new approach is "requiring activity". That concept will lie at the heart of the White Paper, *The Jobseeker's Allowance*, which sets out the Government's plans to replace unemployment benefit, payable for 12 months at present, with the new allowance, which will be payable for six months.

Claimants will have to sign a "job-seeker's agreement" with the employment service, which will commit the Government to helping them to find a job in return for their promise to co-operate.

One senior source said: "We don't want the State to become the employer of last resort. We want people to have real jobs in the market making things that others want to buy. But we do think that where the taxpayer has been paying out benefits for a long time we have the right to test whether these people are available for work. We might require them to turn up and do something like community action. "We will be making clear in the law that benefit is dependent on people actively seeking work, and that can be tested by requiring people to do various things."

The White Paper, which will be followed by a Bill in the next session of Parliament, will set out the rigorous contract which claimants will have to sign to receive benefit.

They will be required to show that they are actively seeking work by proving they have applied for jobs and taken other measures to find employment. They will also have to accept any job offered in any geographical area "within reason". The unemployed will no longer be able to refuse jobs as hairdressers or sales representatives, or complain that they cannot move to another area.

Job Centres, which will distribute the new allowance, will in future expect reports from employers on people who deliberately spoil job interviews so that they can stay on the dole. Those who do will immediately lose part or all of their benefit.

Portillo: claimants to sign job-seeker's agreement

Lilley: essence of approach is "requiring activity"

Clarke caves in over EU deal to reduce fines on Italy

From Wolfgang Münchau in Brussels

KENNETH Clarke, the Chancellor, abandoned one of Britain's toughest battles in the European Union yesterday by accepting a compromise to cut agricultural fines on Italy.

Britain also agreed to drop a court case against the European Commission when it accepted a compromise that effectively reduces fines on Italy and Spain by a total of £700 million. The fines were imposed on these two countries for exceeding their EU milk quotas.

The deal is certain to provoke anger among Conservative Euro-sceptics who urged the Chancellor not to cave in to what one of them called "one the most appalling cases of international blackmail". Critics of the deal are concerned that yesterday's compromise firmly establishes the principle that EU fines are negotiable.

British officials worked hard to put some gloss on yesterday's compromise, claiming that the resulting combined fine of £2.6 billion, which includes a £1.5 billion fine for Italy, was "the biggest ever imposed in the agricultural sector".

Mr Clarke said that it was "better to have three birds in the hand than four birds in the bush", referring to the £3.3 billion in fines which Italy and Spain would have faced under normal procedures. The Chancellor said that "going back to my days as a lawyer I know it is preferable to settle out of court".

The agreement was reached at the end of an emergency session of EU finance and economics ministers. The meeting was called by the German EU presidency because Italy linked agreement on the fines to its ratification of the EU's five-year budget deal, which was agreed at the Edinburgh summit in 1992.

Under that deal, the EU's budget would increase from the current level of 1.2 per cent of the member states' gross domestic product to 1.27 per cent. The extra funds are to used, among others, to pay for programmes for southern European countries, the price which they had extracted for their approval for the enlargement of the EU. Failure to agree would have risked severe economic and political deadlock.

Mr Clarke's decision to drop the court case comes in return for assurances that Italy's new milk quotas are not subject to further statistical revisions of more than 5 per cent. Had Britain decided to pursue the case, the Luxembourg court would not have reached a decision for another two years.

Even if Britain had won then, Mr Clarke said: "We would not have necessarily got £3.3 billion then. There would still have negotiations."

Earlier this year, the European Commission decided to apply the new quota retroactively from 1989, which would have seen Italy's fine reduced to about £960 million.

As part of the compromise, Britain also established that the right to negotiate fines rests with the Council of Ministers, and not the European Commission.

Following the agreement, the way is now set for the change in the EU's budget, as a result of which Italy becomes a net contributor for the first time. In the league table of net contributions per head, Britain will occupy seventh place. The Netherlands, which resisted yesterday's deal more than anybody else and which was outvoted yesterday, will emerge as the top contributor per head of population.

Before yesterday's meeting, Mr Clarke faced calls from Tory Euro-sceptics not to cave in to the Italians. Sir Teddy Taylor, the MP for Southend East, reminded the Chancellor that the deal would have implications for British taxpayers.

"Why on earth should our taxpayers pay more to enable the Italians to break the law? Many countries don't obey the rules, but in this case the Italians were caught, the evidence was clear and a fine was imposed," Sir Teddy said.

Election decided by lots in court

By A Staff Reporter

A LIBERAL Democrat was declared the winner in a local election yesterday after lots were drawn in court. Labour had won the two seats in the Eel Brook ward of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham in May, but the second was by a single vote over the Liberal Democrat candidate.

A dispute arose over whether a vital proxy vote cast on behalf of an elderly woman should be allowed to count after it was disclosed that a vote had already been cast in her name. In the High Court, Lord Justice Beldam and Mr Justice Buxton ordered that the proxy vote should stand, which meant that Billy Dann, the Labour candidate, and Simon Thompson, Lib Dem, had each polled 697 votes.

The court ordered lots to be drawn. The names of the two candidates were placed in a sealed box, which was then handed to a court associate. She drew one out of the box and handed it to Lord Justice Beldam, who declared Mr Thompson, 27, an accounts director with a public relations consultancy, the winner.

The judges ruled that the court should not intervene over the proxy vote because it could not be proved that someone had impersonated Mrs Tunnell: there could have been an administrative slip at the polling station.

Council video for gays

A LABOUR-controlled local authority facing substantial budget cuts came under attack yesterday over plans to produce a £14,500 equal opportunities video for homosexual staff. Conservative and Liberal Democrat members of Lewisham council in southeast London described the project as "frivolous waste of taxpayers' money" when cuts of £14 million were in prospect for the borough next year.

Andrew Lawrence, a Conservative councillor, said yesterday: "It's outrageous. I'm not against gays or lesbians, but we don't need money wasted on political correctness."

Tory backbenchers attack London hospital closures

By Alice Thomson, Political Reporter

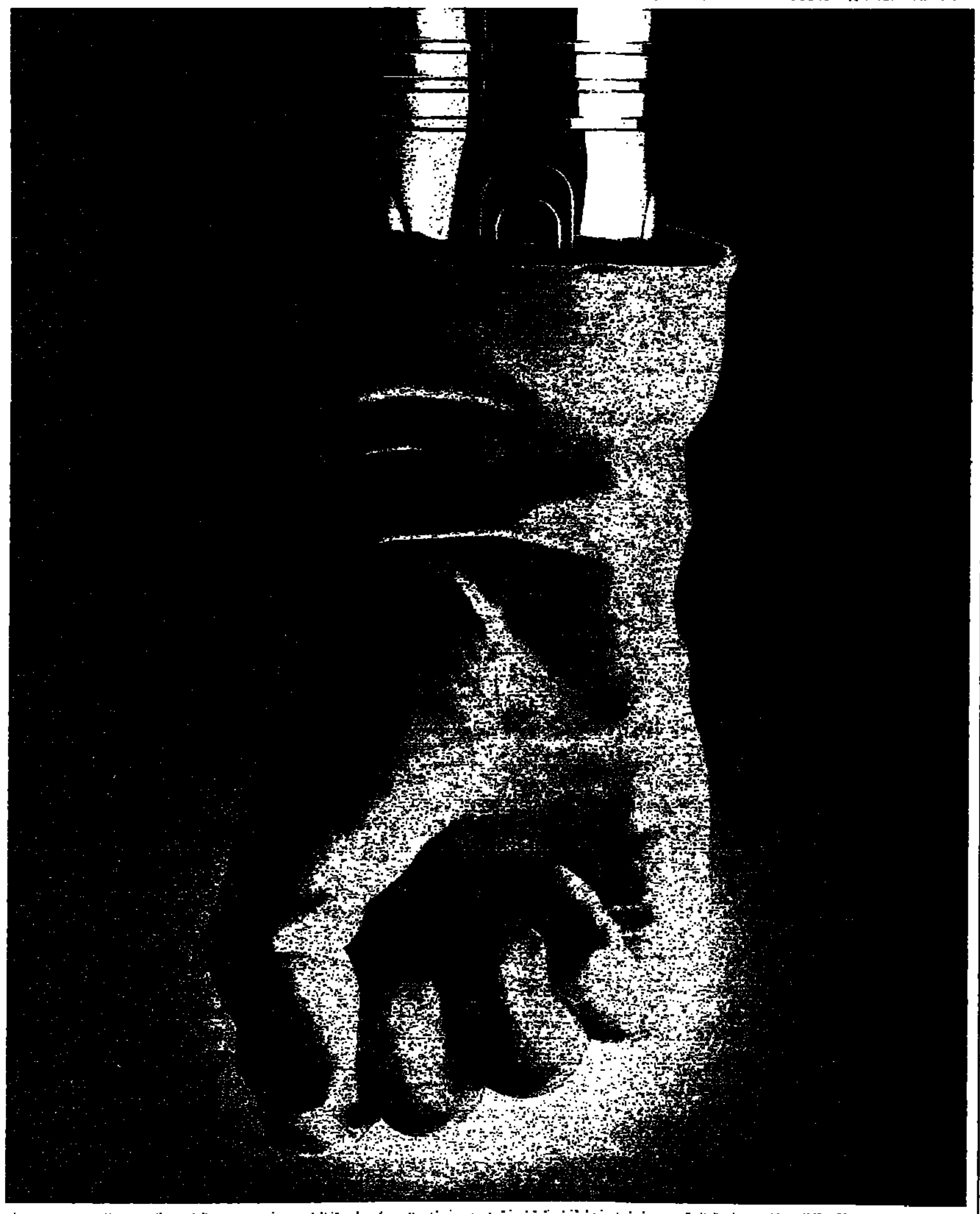
THE Government was severely criticised from its own back benches last night for its determination to close certain London hospitals. Peter Brooke, the former National Heritage Secretary, led the attack against Virginia Bottomley's health care reforms for London with a plea for more beds.

Speaking for his City of London and Westminster South constituency on the future of the NHS in the capital, he said that constituents were horrified by the imminent closure of St Bartholomew's Hospital. He said that aiming to complete the run-down of the hospital in six years had dampened morale, "at precisely the time when morale needed to be built up". He also praised the "sober language" of the latest King's Fund report which urged a moratorium on hospital closures in London.

Mr Brooke said he hoped the Government would "see virtue overall in halting the loss of beds in London until we are confident we have reached equilibrium". He added: "It is difficult to provide a regional health service let alone a national one, if you do not have enough beds in which to do it."

Nicholas Scott, a former Conservative minister for the disabled, also making his first speech since leaving office in the summer, warned the Government that London hospitals were already having problems coping with the additional pressures of treating the homeless, foreign visitors and commuters.

Gerald Malone, a Health Minister, insisted London's population changes had cut the need for acute beds, adding that the reaction of many people was to "shrink away" from change. "The instinct is to retain the status quo, but quite frankly that is not an option," he said. He added that further inquiries into proposed changes would put the situation back to square one. "We can't do this. We have to press on."



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'We fought this big Japanese company because we weren't prepared to be bullied'

Game brothers beat Nintendo and collect £2m

By Emma Wilkins

TWO brothers who founded a computer games company after dropping out of school have won a four-year, multi-million-pound court battle with Nintendo, the Japanese games manufacturer. David Darling, 28, and his brother Richard, 26, who run Codemasters from converted farm buildings at Southam, Warwickshire, have received £2 million in compensation, awarded to them by the US Supreme Court.

The brothers, who started selling computer games from home in the evenings after school, were taken to court after they began distributing an invention called Game Genie in America in 1990. The device allows players to modify existing games, making them easier or more difficult depending on ability.

Nintendo claimed that by altering the rules of the games the invention infringed its copyright, but its case was rejected and it appealed to a higher court. Last week, after hearing Nintendo's appeal, the Supreme Court ruled against the Japanese company and the Darlings have just received their money.

"We're delighted of course, but we wish we'd never had to fight the case," David Darling said yesterday. "The whole process seems to have taken for ever.

"It has been very annoying that this big Japanese company thought they should have the right to monopolise the market. We carried on fighting because we weren't prepared to be bullied.

"We have a great product, which everyone wants. This is very much a young man's game, but with all the litigation involved, everybody is getting a lot older very quickly."

Game Genie, subject of the court battle

Under the terms of the court ruling, Nintendo was ordered to pay $15 million (£9.4 million) compensation to Lewis Galoob Toys, which distributed Game Genie under licence for Codemasters in America. The brothers received $2.6 million (£1.6 million) and £500,000 in interest from their licensee. The award represents compensation for loss of profits between June 1990 and July 1991, when the licensee was prevented from distributing Game Genie under the terms of an injunction obtained by Nintendo.

The Darlings' company is one of the recent success stories of British industry. Projected sales this year are £12 million and the estimated total worth of Codemasters is £30 million.

David was 13 and Richard 12 when they were given their first computer and taught themselves to create their own games. The boys put advertisements in computer magazines and sold games by mail order, producing them at home after school.

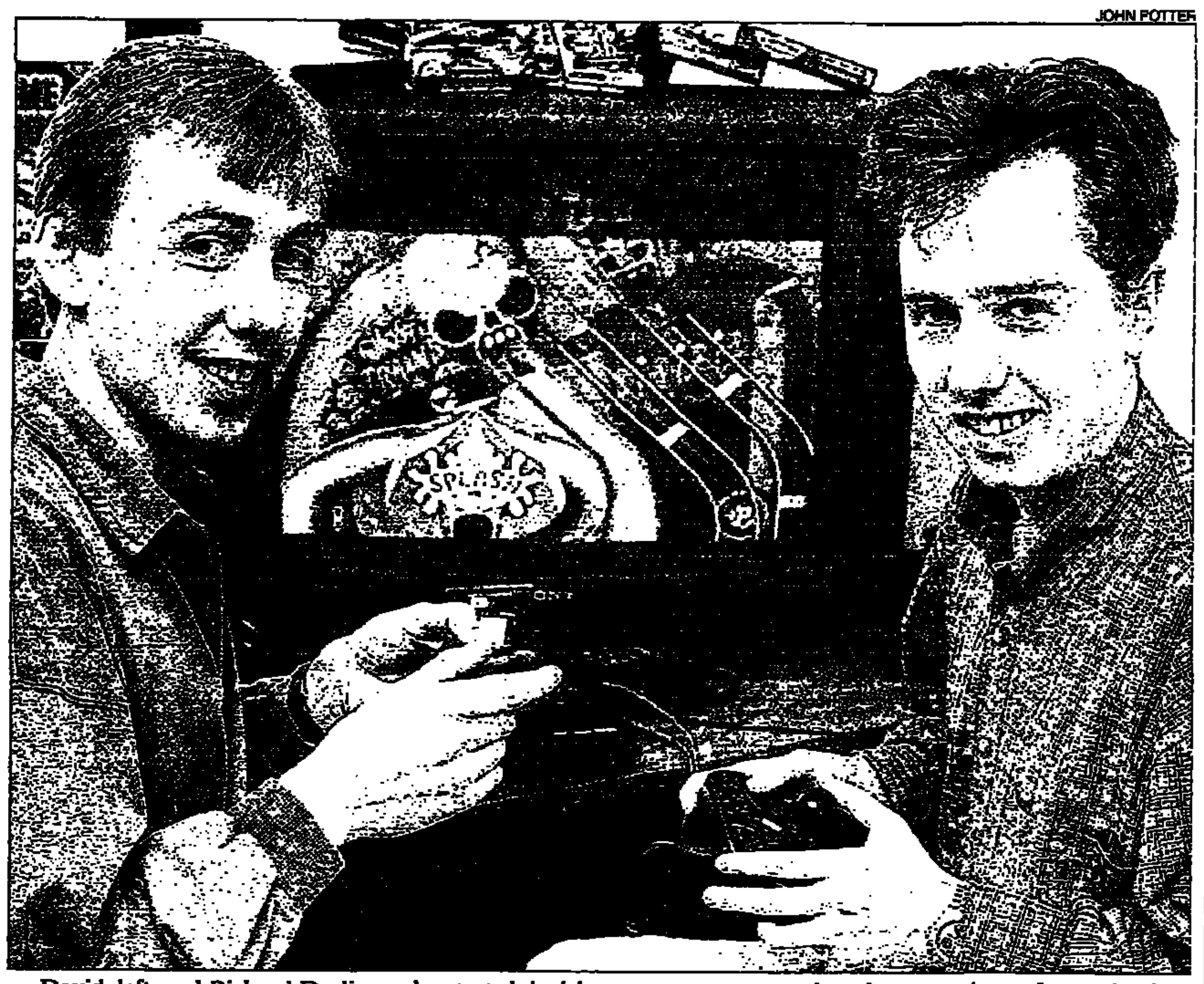
When David was 16, the brothers were offered the chance to join a bigger company as games designers. It meant leaving school and missing university, but the gamble paid off.

In 1986, they set up Codemasters and now employ 80 freelance graphic artists and manufacture 400 games. At the outset they tossed a coin to decide who should be managing director. David won and Richard became chairman. They employ their father as their sales manager and their sister works in the office.

Richard, who is married with a three-year-old daughter, has a modest lifestyle, but David, who lives in Stratford-upon-Avon, is more flamboyant and drives a red £74,000 Ferrari. He said: "I feel no animosity towards Nintendo, it's just business, but I am glad we won again. I always knew that we would and it comes as no surprise really but it does feel good. We spend hundreds of thousands of pounds on legal fees every year and it's nice to see something coming back."

He said that all the money would be going back into the company, but added: "I will be taking my wife Julie out somewhere special in the Ferrari."

JOHN POTTER


David, left, and Richard Darling, who started devising computer games when they came home from school

The Times cleared of predatory price cut

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

THE Office of Fair Trading has cleared *The Times* and *The Daily Telegraph* of deliberately trying to drive rival newspapers out of the market by reducing their prices.

Sir Bryan Carsberg, Director General of the OFT, yesterday accepted that the newspaper price war had produced a degree of turmoil in the market. However, he rejected a complaint from *The Independent* that the price reductions were predatory and had been designed to eliminate competition, saying they did not appear to target any particular title.

It is the second time in 12 months that the OFT has thrown out a complaint about predatory pricing in the newspaper business. Last October it rejected a claim, also from *The Independent*, that the decision by *The Times* in September 1993 to initiate its first cover-price cut, from 45p to 30p, was commercially unfair. Since then *The Daily Telegraph* has reduced its price from 48p to 30p and *The Times* has reduced its price again to 20p.

The Independent's second submission to the OFT was made less than five weeks before it reduced its own price from 50p to 30p. Sir Bryan said this had resulted in benefits to consumers.

In view of the number of competing titles in the market, it seemed unlikely that a predator would be able to recoup any losses out of future profits resulting directly from the price-cutting strategy, he said. An investigation under the Competition Act or the monopoly provisions of the Fair Trading Act would not therefore be unjustified.

"*The Times* has been making losses for many years," Sir Bryan said. "News International's price cutting is a high-risk strategy which could result in additional losses if the hoped-for circulation target is not achieved and advertising revenue increased. Nevertheless, *The Times*'s decision to reduce cover prices appears to be a reasonable commercial strategy designed to improve its competitive position in prevailing market circumstances."

Woolf urges court mediation

By Frances Gibb, Legal Correspondent

A FUNDAMENTAL new approach to cutting the expense and delays in civil justice, including compulsory use of American-style mediation services and all-in quotations for legal costs, were urged by Lord Woolf yesterday.

Giving his first press conference since being appointed by the Lord Chancellor in April to carry out a two-year review of the civil courts, Lord Woolf that said his prime aim was to achieve a system that was as far as possible affordable. To do that, there needed to be "a radically different model of conducting civil justice than exists at present"; a change in the ethos and approach to and by litigants, and among judges.

Lord Woolf, who was announcing a series of nationwide seminars to put his ideas and hear people's views, said that much greater use could be made of mediation. He cited the Court of Appeal in the District of Columbia, where there was a full-time mediator helped by senior attorneys acting without charge. That seemed to work "very well" and of the cases settled, about half had been through mediation.

Another idea was that individuals should be given a fixed quotation for their legal costs at the start of litigation. The time involved in cases had a direct impact on lawyers' charges, he said. "You might get a situation where litigants could be given a fixed cost which they will have to pay, so they know where they are from the start."

Other reforms might involve fixed timetables for trials, which — with a requirement to use mediation — would encourage cases to settle early. In answer to recent remarks by the Bar chairman, Robert Seabrook, QC, that he did not appear to have adequate resources for his task, Lord Woolf said the Lord Chancellor had doubled the size of his team and "fully supported" the inquiry, to which he attached great importance.

Hope for laser heart treatment

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Services Correspondent

DAVID Pogson has lived for a year with his heart full of holes. He was the first patient in Britain to receive a treatment for heart disease which involved riddling his heart with shots from a laser gun.

Results from the operation, which has since been tested on 16 patients at Papworth Hospital, near Huntingdon, have been encouraging and the Medical Research Council yesterday announced a £400,000 grant to extend the trial. Over three years, 95 patients are to undergo the treatment, which offers an alternative to conventional heart surgery.

Mr Pogson, 61, who had had two failed coronary bypass operations, was suffering severe angina (chest pain) which kept him confined to the house. Instead of grafting new blood vessels on to the heart to replace those that had become narrowed or blocked, as in a coronary bypass, the procedure, transmyocardial revascularisation, involves using a laser loaned by Bupa, the private healthcare group, to drill tiny holes through the heart wall to form new blood vessels.

Each laser hole — about one millimetre in diameter — creates a channel in the heart's wall allowing oxygen-rich blood to reach the damaged heart muscle. Dr Peter Schofield, consultant cardiologist at Papworth, said: "There is an increasing number of patients with severe angina in whom conventional techniques are not appropriate. The laser may help them."

Mr Pogson, a father of three and former civil engineer, said the operation had been a "major plus. I can go out and I am improving all the time." He had had no hesitation about going ahead with the untested procedure. "There are two ways of looking at life: either you go for it or you don't. If you want some improvement you have to go for it."

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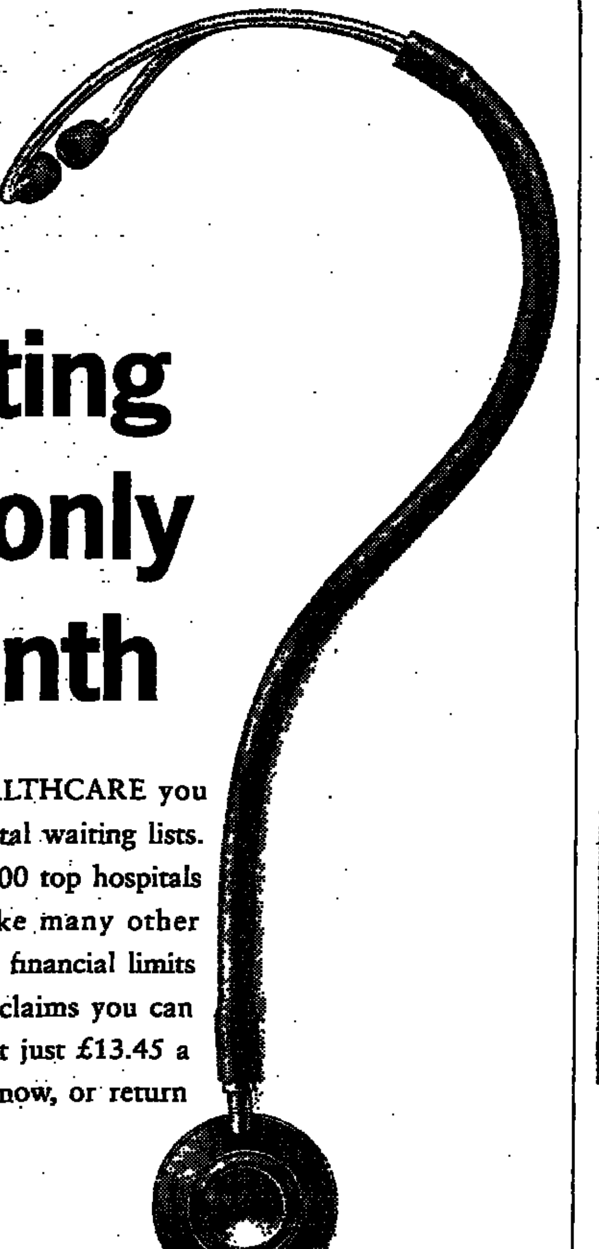

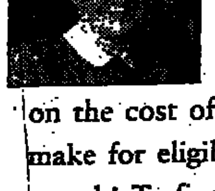

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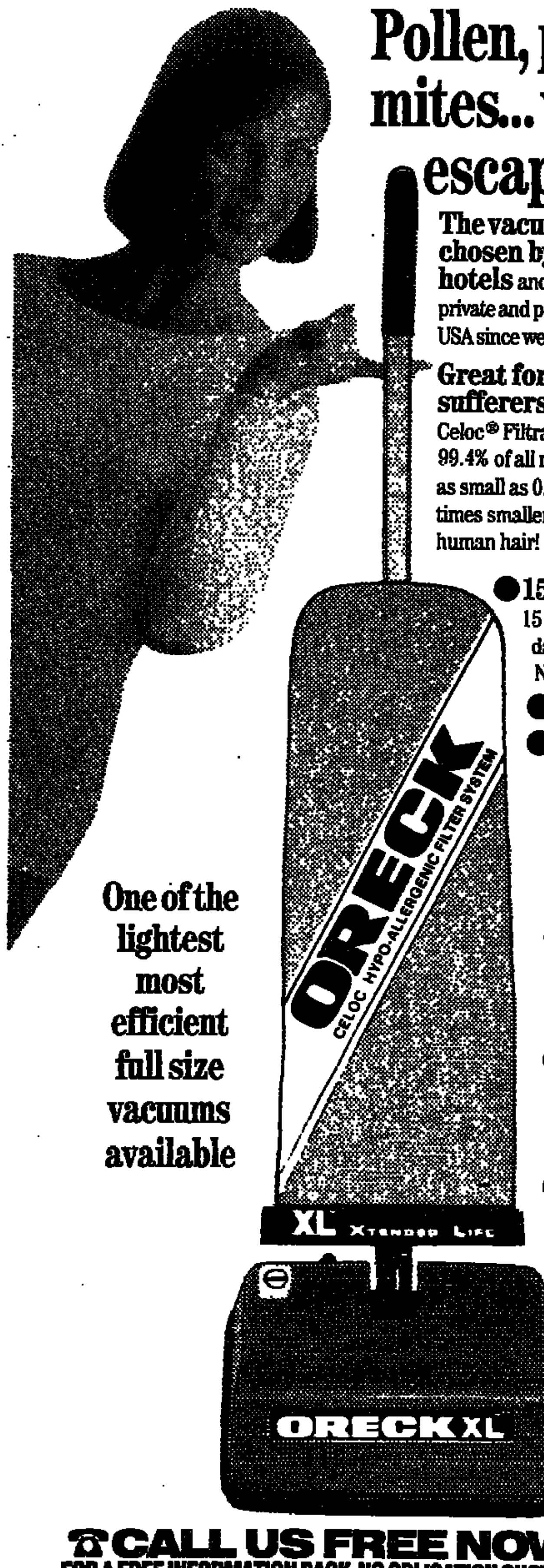

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Archbishop bans Catholic sex guide for schools

By Paul Wilkinson

LEADING figures in the Roman Catholic church have been angered by a new sex education booklet intended for use in its schools in England and Wales. They object to its *apparent approval of homosexuality and masturbation.*

The Archbishop of Birmingham, Mgr Maurice Couve de Murville, has refused to permit the booklet, *Education in Sexuality*, to be used in his diocese. In a private letter to school governors and church officers he calls it "seriously deficient".

One leading Catholic layman, the writer Piers Paul Read, has called for the resignation of David Konstant, the Bishop of Leeds and chairman of the Catholic Education Service, which produced the volume. The booklet, produced by a CES working party and approved by Mgr Konstant, says that homosexuality and masturbation are acceptable means of sexual expression. Mr Read says the 64-year-old bishop is "unacceptably liberal".

In an 11-page memo to schools, Mgr Couve de Murville said the document was "far from satisfactory". He said *Education in Sexuality* contained "serious deficiencies which make it unsuitable for use in our schools". He also said it offered "no significant help towards the moral and spiritual growth of pupils *in their* sex education" and failed to "embody the priorities that must be present in any Catholic, or even general Christian, programme of education in sexuality".

The sections on homosexuality and masturbation attract particular criticism. The memo said: "It recommends the use of resources which are at odds with the Catholic understanding of sexuality."

Mr Read, 53, who is chairman of the Catholic Writers' Guild, said that Mgr Konstant had ultimate responsibility for the publication. "This is just another symptom of what appears to be a malaise in the church bureaucracy. This baffles some Catholics and leads others to despair.

"*It would appear that* Bishop Konstant is unacceptably liberal. The teaching coming from his department is at variance with that from the Vatican and from the Pope."

At Your Service, Weekend, page 2

The Rt Rev Michael Turnbull, Bishop of Durham

The Church's forgiveness and grace should not be selective

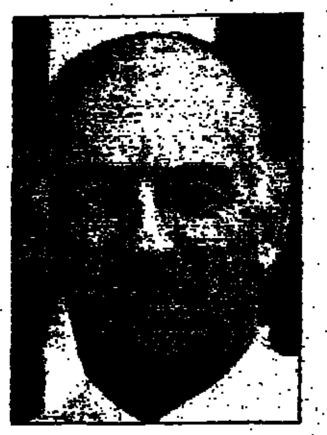
PHILIP CROWE

THE new Bishop of Durham, to be enthroned today, may count himself unusually fortunate. The Church of England is curiously selective about whom to forgive, and for what.

People who are guilty of sexual offences may be forgiven, while those who divorce and want to marry *again in church are often* treated as if their "sin" is unforgivable. In the ragbag of sexual morality which the Church of England holds, these matters are jumbled in muddle and confusion.

If the Bishop of Durham's marriage had ended in divorce 26 years ago, and if he had committed the "sin" of marrying again, he would probably not be working as a clergyman today, and he would certainly not be serving as a bishop. An act of gross indecency may be forgiven, so can divorce, but not a second marriage. Even this year, a priest has been required to leave a senior appointment because he has committed the "sin" of marrying again after divorce.

Behind the confusion lies the attempt to preserve high moral standards while dealing graciously with those who fail. Marriage is a sacred relationship which *promises permanence; but* with so many marriages ending in divorce, how can the Church preserve the ideal of lifelong commitment while responding with the grace of the gospel to those who want to enter into marriage vows for a second, or even third time? Since 1938, regulations passed in the aftermath of the abdication crisis and of divorce reform have forbidden use of the marriage service a second time; today, such a harsh response seems contrary to the grace of the gospel.



Today, a compromise is offered, a service of prayer and dedication after a civil marriage. The couple go to the registry office, say their vows for a second or maybe a third time, and the Church offers two cheers afterwards.

Some Church leaders advocate this solution, arguing that the Church is thus accepting the couple and their desire for a new start, and is willing to pray with them for their second marriage: but that by refusing to marry them, the Church is saying to the world: marriage is for life and you cannot make the same vows twice in Church.

This piece of Olympian sophistry seems *lost on the* couples who present themselves at the vicarage. People have come to me in utter bewilderment, having been offered such a service. "If he will do that much for us," they say, "why won't he marry us?" Many have sensed a whiff of hypocrisy.

The possibility of forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian gospel. Dealing graciously with those who fail is risky. It is always likely to appear subversive of high *standards of morality. But* the Church exists primarily to minister forgiveness and grace, whatever the risks.

☐ *Philip Crowe was formerly Principal of Salisbury and Wells Theological College and is a member of the General Synod of the Church of England.*

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Guernsey Leaders

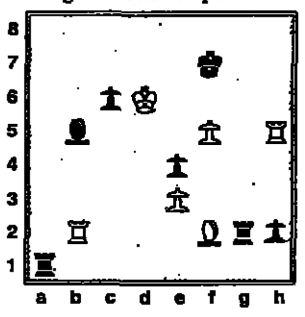
After five rounds of the Guernsey international tournament the former Yugoslav grandmaster Bogdan Lalic, now resident in Brighton, shares the lead on 4.5/5 with K *Bjerring of Denmark. Lalic's* most important victory so far came when he defeated Grandmaster Julian Hodgson, the former British champion and member of the English olympic team.

***White:** Bogdan Lalic*
Black: Julian Hodgson
Guernsey, 1994

Trompovsky Attack

1	d4	d5
2	Bg5	f6
3	Bf4	Nc6
4	Nf3	Bf5
5	e3	Qd7
6	a3	g5
7	Bg3	h5
8	h3	e6
9	c4	Nge7
10	Nc3	Bg6
11	Bh2	Bf7
12	Nb5	Rc8
13	Nc3	g4
14	Ng1	e5
15	dxe5	fxe5
16	cxd5	Nxd5
17	Ne4	Be7
18	Bg3	Rg8
19	h4	Rd8
20	Bc4	Kf8
21	Qc1	Qf5
22	Ng5	Bxg5
23	hxg5	Qe4
24	Bxd5	Rxd5
25	f3	Qd3
26	Ne2	gxf3
27	gxf3	Rxg5
28	Bf2	e4
29	f4	Rc5
30	Nc3	Rg2
31	Qd1	Bc4
32	Qxd3	Bxd3
33	Rg1	Rh2
34	Rc1	a5
35	Rd1	Ne7
36	Rd2	b5
37	Kd1	b4
38	axb4	axb4
39	Na4	Ra5
40	b3	Nd5
41	Kc1	Nc3
42	Kb2	Nxa4+
43	bxa4	Rxa4
44	Kb3	Ra6
45	Kxb4	Rb6+
46	Kc5	Kf7
47	Kd5	h4
48	Rc1	c6+
49	Kd6	h3
50	Rc5	Rg2
51	Ra2	Ra6
52	Rb2	Bb5
53	Rh5	h2
54	f5	Ra1
		White resigns

Diagram of final position



Wrexham Results

After three rounds of the Owens Corning grandmaster tournament, at Wrexham Maelor in Wales, four players share the lead on 2.5 points. They are: Karlsson (Sweden), Bezold (Germany), Davies (UK) and Westerinen (Finland).

Winning Move, Weeknd, page 31

THE TIMES BRIDGE

Dealer West East-West vul

North: ♠A 7 4 ♥Q ♦A K J 10 8 6 4 ♣10 3

West: ♠K Q 8 6 5 ♥8 3 2 ♦2 ♣A K 9 6

East: ♠10 3 ♥J 6 ♦Q 7 3 ♣Q J 8 5 4 2

South: ♠J 9 2 ♥A K 10 9 7 5 4 ♦9 5 ♣7

By John Graham

East-West were playing five-card majors. After one spade by West and two diamonds by North, South jumped to four hearts. West led the two of diamonds. Since he had no good reason to lead the two from Q-x-x-x or Q-x-x, this was an obvious singleton.

*South was an expert card-*reader and played the hand in about ten seconds. After the diamond ace he overtook the heart queen, laid down the king and made a declaration for 13 tricks when the jack dropped.

I asked him why he had played that way on a deal where he had potential losers in every suit. "Obviously I was lucky to drop the jack, but if it doesn't drop I play a second diamond, *planning to ruff out* the queen. If West has the jack of trumps, he can't gain by ruffing in front of dummy. If East has it, he can't ruff anyway."

But what if someone had four trumps to the jack? "Impossible. If West held four to the jack, he would have been 5-4-1-3 or 6-4-1-2. With seven or eight clubs, East might have entered the bidding. If East held four to the jack, West would have been 5-1-1-6 or 6-1-1-5 and would definitely have bid again. When they're both silent, the 3-2 heart split is a near certainty."

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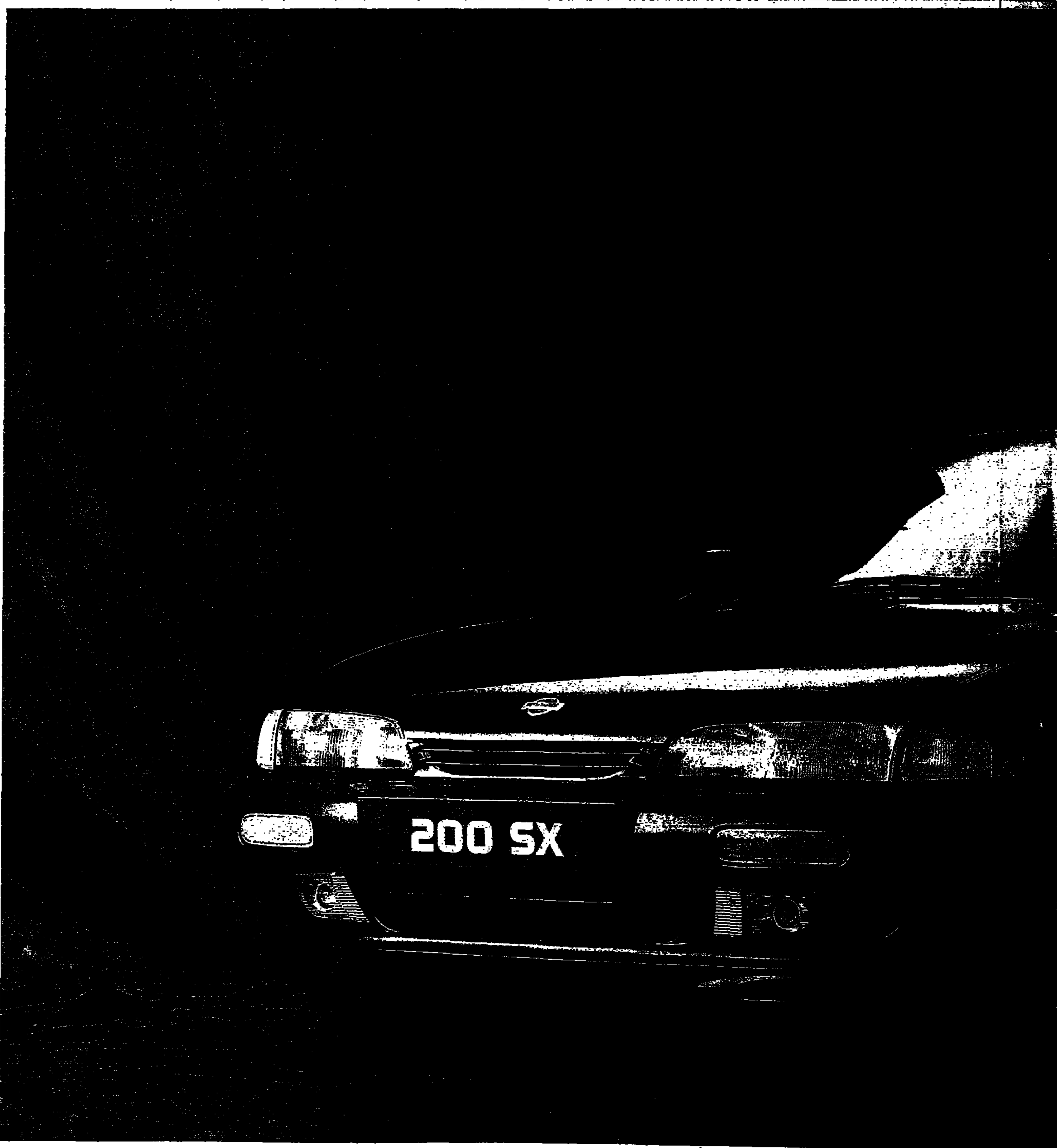

THE STEEL HAN

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Rifkind calls for intelligence links in war on terror

By Christopher Walker in Tel Aviv and Michael Binyon

MALCOLM Rifkind, the British Defence Minister, yesterday emphasised the importance of exchanging information on terrorism between Britain and Israel in the wake of the Hamas bus bombing.

But he refused to be drawn on whether the Government had agreed to crack down on Hamas representatives in Britain or whether there would be close co-operation between MI6 and Mossad.

Mr Rifkind, the first British Defence Minister to visit the Jewish state since its formation in 1948, spoke to the press after extensive consultations with Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and senior military officials on the current threat posed to Middle East peace by Hamas. The talks took place close to the spot where 21 Jews were killed in a Hamas suicide bomb attack on Wednesday.

"I never comment on intelligence matters," Mr Rifkind said. But when pressed by Israeli journalists, he denied that Tel Aviv had officially requested that Britain crack down on Hamas supporters in London, and then added that those who broke laws would be dealt with.

Israeli authorities, trying to identify the suicide bomber, yesterday took blood samples from the Palestinian parents of Saleh Abdel Rahim al-Souwi, who claimed to be a "living martyr" in a videotape released by Hamas on Thursday. A doctor at the national pathology institute said that saliva and blood samples had been taken to compare the DNAs for identification with several organs found at the scene of the carnage.

Al-Souwi's home in the occupied West Bank was sealed yesterday by the Israeli army. But soon after the troops left, Palestinian youths prised open the door.

The new spiral of terrorist violence led Egypt yesterday to warn of the "very serious consequences" for the Middle East peace process if Israel moved into Gaza in pursuit of Hamas. Amr Moussa, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, visiting London, telephoned Shimon Peres, his Israeli counterpart. The two will meet in Cairo today. He is likely to counsel caution on Israel, and gave a warning of tit-for-tat retaliation by settlers.

He said after talks with Douglas Hogg, the junior Foreign Office minister, that the peace process had to be speeded up, not slowed down, in response to the Tel Aviv bombing. If everything went back to square one, this would be a disaster, he said.

Admitting that Yassir Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, was now in a "difficult position", Mr Moussa called for the acceleration of the election timetable in Gaza and Jericho. He said Mr Arafat was confident that he would beat any rival organisation, including Hamas.

Mr Rifkind confirmed diplomatic reports that John Major, the Prime Minister, will visit the Jewish state next year as part of rapidly improving Anglo-Israeli ties. These have followed the peace process and Britain's decision in May to lift its 12-year arms embargo after the invasion of Lebanon. This weekend, Mr Rifkind will be visiting the Israeli manufacturer of the Popeye missile which Britain is considering purchasing. He said that in two to three months Britain would be asking manufacturers to submit tenders.

Mr Rifkind also is attempting to persuade Israel to buy British military equipment during the high-profile, four-day visit in which Mr Rifkind and Mr Rabin will be joint guests of honour at a dinner in Tel Aviv to commemorate the Balfour Declaration which indirectly helped towards Israel's eventual foundation and whose anniversary is marked by violent protests in the Israeli occupied territories.

Malcolm Rifkind, left, accompanied by Yitzhak Rabin, reviewing Israeli troops in Tel Aviv yesterday

Baghdad Embassy slips into history

From Richard Beeston in Baghdad

More than 70 years after Britain and Iraq embarked on one of the most intense love-hate relationships of contemporary Middle East history, the ties that have bound the two countries together finally appear to be unravelling.

Four years after the Gulf conflict caused the break in relations between London and Baghdad and the flight of hundreds of British expatriates from Iraq, Britain's presence in the country is today confined to fading memories and a few ghostly relics of the past.

Nothing symbolises the decline better than the state of the British Embassy, the imposing former Ottoman governor's residence, which was commandered by British forces after the defeat of the Turks in the First World War.

The sprawling garden compound on the banks of the Tigris, where British expatriates played cricket on the immaculate lawn, is today a crumbling monument to a bygone era. A stray dog has ignored the peeling "Members Only" sign to make his home beside the tennis courts.

There are fears that the entire yellow-brick building could slide unceremoniously into the river. "Officially we do not exist, so it is hard to persuade London to give us any help in keeping the place going," said one of the two women caretakers at the British mission, who still dutifully report to work to watch over an embassy library of yellowing paperbacks and a broken lawnmower.

A small community of British women, who have married Iraqis and made their homes here, still remains in Baghdad, although none is eager to advertise their roots. "We try to keep in touch, but four years is a long time and we feel very isolated," one said.

The plight of the British community becomes evident in a visit to St George's Anglican church, an attractive 1930s building. The garden is a rubbish tip, while children have smashed most of the stained-glass windows.

For Baghdadis the last valuable vestige of their links with Britain is the horde of British-era antiques — medals to cigarette cases — which have recently flooded the market as families have been forced to sell off valuables to make ends meet.

Grieving Israelis visit shrine

By Christopher Walker

ISRAELIS continued to flock in their thousands yesterday to a shrine erected under a battered tree in Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Street to mark the spot where 21 Jews were killed by an Islamic suicide bomber on Wednesday.

Some wept as they added to the forest of candles filling the charred pavement. Among most of the Jews gathered there was relief that the government's first reaction to the attack has been to abandon all talk of peace bringing a new Middle Eastern Benelux with open borders, and to revert instead to "fortress Israel" from which Palestinians will be excluded.

Although there was heartfelt contempt and venom for the peace policy of Yitzhak Rabin, the Labour Prime Minister, there was also grudging support for his televised declaration after the blast: "We need a separation between us and the Palestinians, not just for days, but as a way of life."

The Israeli construction, farming and restaurant industries traditionally depend on cheap Palestinian labour. An extra 15,000 foreign labourers are now being recruited.

Many inside the Palestine Liberation Organisation see the new Israeli policy towards Arabs as sounding the death knell for the 13-month peace accord. "These orders deprive our sons of their work. They are an attempt to make the Palestinian people kneel down," said Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman.

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The forum will take place at Westminster Central Hall, Storeys Gate, London SW1 on Wednesday, November 2, at 7.30pm. Joseph Heller will be signing copies of *Closing Time*, after the event.

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THE TIMES

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Basques look to Ulster in search for peace

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN VITORIA

THE streets of Vitoria, the capital of the autonomous Basque country in northern Spain, are not festooned with political propaganda for tomorrow's regional elections. But the invisible writing on the wall is that after 26 years of violence, there is a real chance that Europe's other Ulster will copy Ireland's peace process.

No startling shifts are predicted in the fifth Basque elections since democracy was restored in Spain, with the centre-right Basque Nationalist Party expected to govern again in coalition with the Basque Socialists. But the focus will be on how many of the 1.68 million electorate will vote tomorrow for Herri Batasuna, the political wing of Eta, the Basque separatist movement.

The radicals, who demand the *right to self-determination for the* Basque region of Spain and south-west France, have toned down their *usual* vitriolic campaigning and there has not been a terrorist attack for the past two months.

"It is not a sign of weakness but a sign that the times in the Basque country are changing," says José Antonio Ardanza, 53, *lehendakari*, or president, of the region since 1985, who also champions the right to self-determination. "Eta is finished: it is losing social support." These are not just optimistic words from the Basque Nationalist Party *president*, whom polls show to be easily the most popular Basque leader, but a reflection on Jon *Idigoras, of Herri Batasuna, who is* the least respected.

Julen Madariaga, 65, one of the founders of Eta in *1968 and now* a member of Herri Batasuna's growing peace faction, *Elkarri* (dialogue), says there are "certain signs" that Eta will abandon violence. He says: "Eta should change its attitude. One cannot ignore the peace processes in South Africa, Palestine and Ireland." Karmelo Landa, 42, a Herri Batasuna Euro-MP with extensive Sinn Fein contacts, has said: "We want what Ireland has got."

Juan Maria Atutxa, the Basque Interior Minister, said yesterday that he would welcome adopting the Irish peace proposals to solve the *Basque problem but that there were* big differences. "In Ireland they have been talking for six years," he *said*. "Representatives of Eta's political wing have visited Sinn Fein in Ireland and are surprised by the few promises they have obtained in exchange for an indefinite ceasefire.

"I believe here more would be demanded. Gerry Adams says that in return he has obtained hope and a series of ongoing talks, but they have stopped." Señor Atutxa pointed out that six years ago the main political parties in Spain formed a pact called *Ajurea Enea* to negotiate with Eta separatists, but so far they have refused. "At least the Basque nation has greater hopes than Ire*land at this stage," he said.* "The statute of autonomy has given us a degree of economic control, communications to recover our language through our own television station and the creation of the Basque police. These have been a series of emblematic events to start the return of sovereignty to our country."

He added that the Irish proposals could be adapted to the Basque country, "but what is missing here is someone who has the guts to take the first step". He said that dark forces beyond the political scene were still at work with little interest in ending the conflict.

Not that the people are necessar*ily with the Eta old guard.* An opinion survey by the Basque government indicates that Basques' main worries, *in order of importance*, are unemployment, the economy and violence. "Gaining independence" comes 15th.

☐ **Paris**: Two men and a woman, alleged Basque separatist guerrillas, were jailed yesterday on conviction here for criminal conspiracy and arms violations. *(Reuter)*

Greek ban on TV toy adverts

Athens: Greek MPs have banned toy advertisements from most daytime and evening television programmes to protect parents' wallets, the Commerce Ministry said.

The toymakers' union complained that the ban "serves those who don't believe in competition". *The ruling* Socialists passed a similar law in 1987, scrapped when New Democracy was in power from 1990 to 1993. *(Reuter, AP)*

Still in charge

Skopje: President Gligorov of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was re-elected in the first round of presidential elections last Sunday, the Electoral Commission announced here. *(AFP)*

Blind eye

Amsterdam: Dr Wilfred van Oijen, who was shown on television in The Netherlands killing a terminally ill man at the patient's request, will not face charges, the Dutch Justice Ministry said. *(Reuter)*

Hostage claim

Phnom Samley: A Khmer Rouge defector claimed that Pol Pot, architect of the 1975-78 genocide, ordered that three Western hostages held in Cambodia be kept alive. Pol Pot has not been seen by outsiders since the 1980s. *(AP)*

Pact signed

Geneva: America and North Korea signed the deal under which Pyongyang will freeze and dismantle the nuclear programme that the US feared could have produced hundreds of weapons. *(Reuter)*

Gems for sale

Delhi: *India's Supreme Court* has ended a two-decade dispute over a jewellery collection from the former princely state of Hyderabad by offering it to the government for 1.8 billion rupees (£35 million). *(Reuter)*

German court leaves hashish ruling hazy

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMANY'S tough anti-cannabis laws seem to be disap*pearing behind* a cloud of smoke. The appeals court in the north German port of *Lübeck — hitherto famous for* marzipan rather than marijuana — ruled this week that *local people* can possess, and sell, up to 6.6lb of hashish without fear of punishment.

The judgment may not be binding for the rest of Germany but it comes at a *time of hazy confusion in the* country's drug scene. Since Europe opened its borders it *has been easy to drive to* countries with more liberal laws — notably The Nether*lands — to buy drugs in bulk*.

German and French hopes that the new Dutch coalition government *would tighten up* legislation have been dashed. The enterprising town councillors of Arnhem are even planning a drive-in drug shop to cope with the annual influx of *30,000 German customers*.

The Lübeck ruling is the first legal interpretation of a Constitutional Court judgment in March that said police need not prosecute Germans in possession of "small quantities" of soft drugs. Possession of larger quantities could still lead to a year in jail. Despite that ruling, the existing anti-drug laws remain in place, and none of the main political parties risked introducing reform in their manifestos.

The result has been a muddle in police offices and courts. In some towns a youth with 3.5oz of *hashish* could be thrown in jail along with burglars and child abusers; in *other places, notably Bremen* and Hamburg, marijuana users think little of puffing *openly in cafés*.

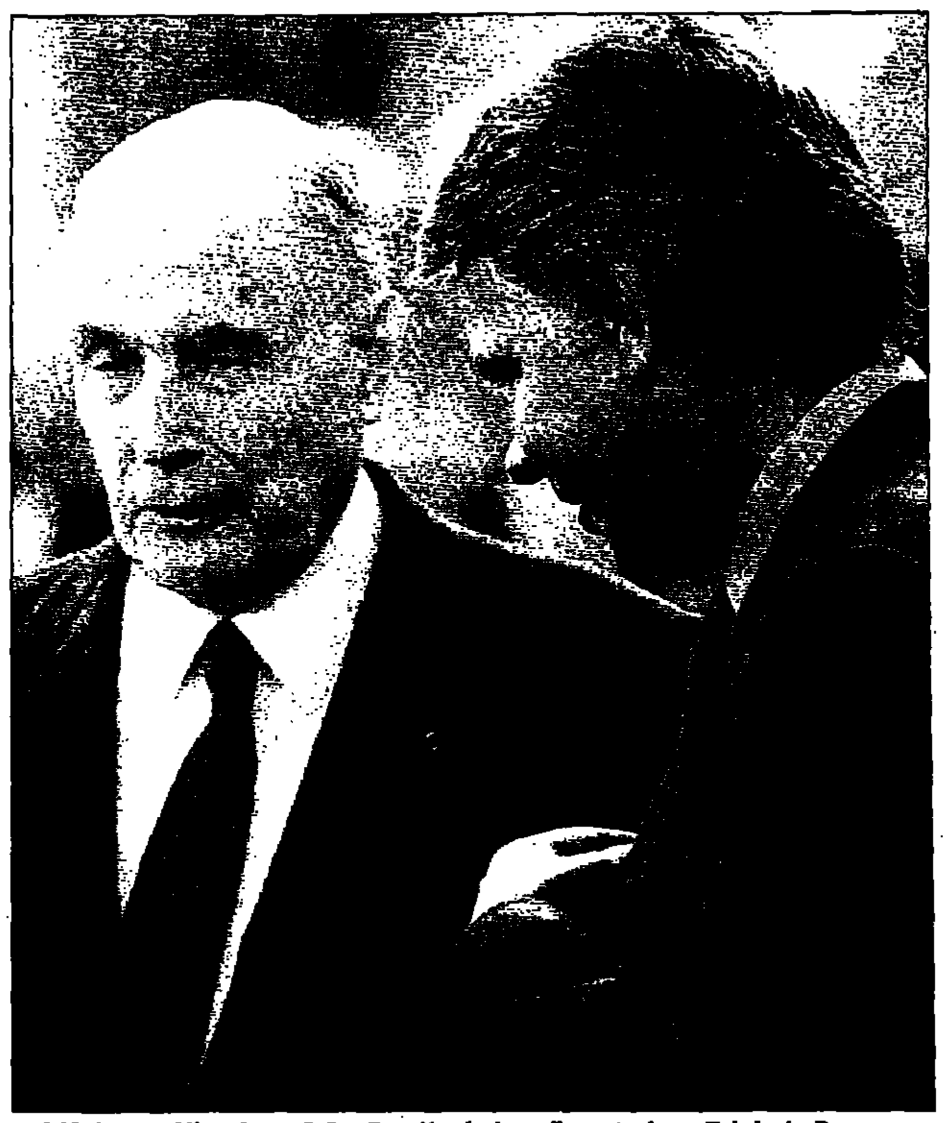
The Lübeck ruling arose when a Turkish nightclub bouncer appealed *against* a three-year jail sentence for selling 33 lb of *hashish*. He *sold the drug in portions* — never more than 4.4lb or 6.6lb at a time — and was in no *sense a professional dealer*. The Lübeck court heard specialist evidence from experts on *addiction*.

The court then set out the contours of what may well be *future German drug policy. It* ruled out the concept that soft drugs lead to psychological or personality problems: at worst, continuous drug-smoking could lead to "demotivated behaviour" such as passivity. The judges also dismissed the notion that soft drugs lead inevitably to hard drugs abuse. The use of soft drugs, thus, had to be considered a "normal" practice, which meant, in turn, establishing a "normal" dose. Up to 6.6lb of medium-quality and medium-strength hashish was judged to be the reasonable amount. *The bouncer had his sentence* reduced to a suspended 14-month term, and marijuana *smokers lit up in triumph*.

But many provincial authorities — especially in Ba*varia — were angered by the* verdict. Bavarian police have asked for instructions on when and how they *should* arrest motorists under the influence of soft drugs.

Critical for the German debate will be policies evolving in The Netherlands, where *Winnie Sorgdragr, the Justice* Minister, wants to distribute heroin free to some hardcore *addicts. This is also* being considered in Hamburg.

Another Dutch scheme, *supported by some police and* healthcare officers, to issue "drug cards", may well help to *shape the debate in Germany*. This proposes the issuing of a drugs card to Dutch citizens, allowing them to purchase a range of inexpensive drugs in about 150 government-controlled stores.



M Mitterrand listening to Señor González during talks yesterday at Foix in the Pyrenees

Spanish resistance honoured

FROM REUTER IN PRAYOLS, FRANCE

THE leaders of France and Spain yesterday paid an emotional tribute, at a ceremony *in this Pyrenean village, to* Spanish republican exiles who died in the French Resis*tance fighting the Nazis.*

Many of the dozens of Spanish veterans present *wept as President Mitterrand* of France and Felipe González, Spain's Prime Minister, *hailed the sacrifices of their* comrades in the most official recognition of their role to *date. "I salute and I thank*, in the name of France and freedom, the guerrillas who *fell here," M Mitterrand said.*

Señor González said their struggle had contributed to a *peaceful European "home for* all free men and women". Europe must stand firm, he said, *against* any *resurgence* of racism and xenophobia.

Thousands of republicans *who had fled after their defeat* by Franco in the 1936-39 civil war formed their own guerril*la groups in the French Resis*tance. Hundreds of them defeated a Nazi column in Prayols and went on to liberate the nearby town of Foix, where the two leaders held two days of talks this week.

Macho men taken to task

BY EDWARD OWEN

THE Social Affairs Ministry in Madrid is trying to persuade the usually macho and inherently recalcitrant Spanish male to do more work around the home.

A publicity campaign costing £500,000 includes television commercials showing a suited man carrying a file alongside his long-*suffering wife festooned* with the trappings of motherhood and housework. *Under the banner* "Live Together As Equals", the man, who always offers "to lend a hand" but never does anything, is told: "Don't just talk ... a home is a shared responsibility."

Cristina Alberdi, 48, the Minister of Social Affairs, hopes the campaign will be the start of "a new social contract" *in which the roles* of men and women "are no longer conditioned by be*longing to one sex or* another".

"Spanish men need to be *re-educated,*" agrees Coralie Pearson, 40, an English translator in Madrid. "There are a large number of Spaniards of my generation who have been spoilt by their mothers."

A study by the Institute of The Woman in Madrid — which is part of the Social Affairs Ministry — conclud*ed that* on a weekday the average wife spent nearly eight hours looking after the *home and family. The hus*band spent two and a half hours — most of that with *the pets and children. At the* weekends, Spanish husbands did even less.

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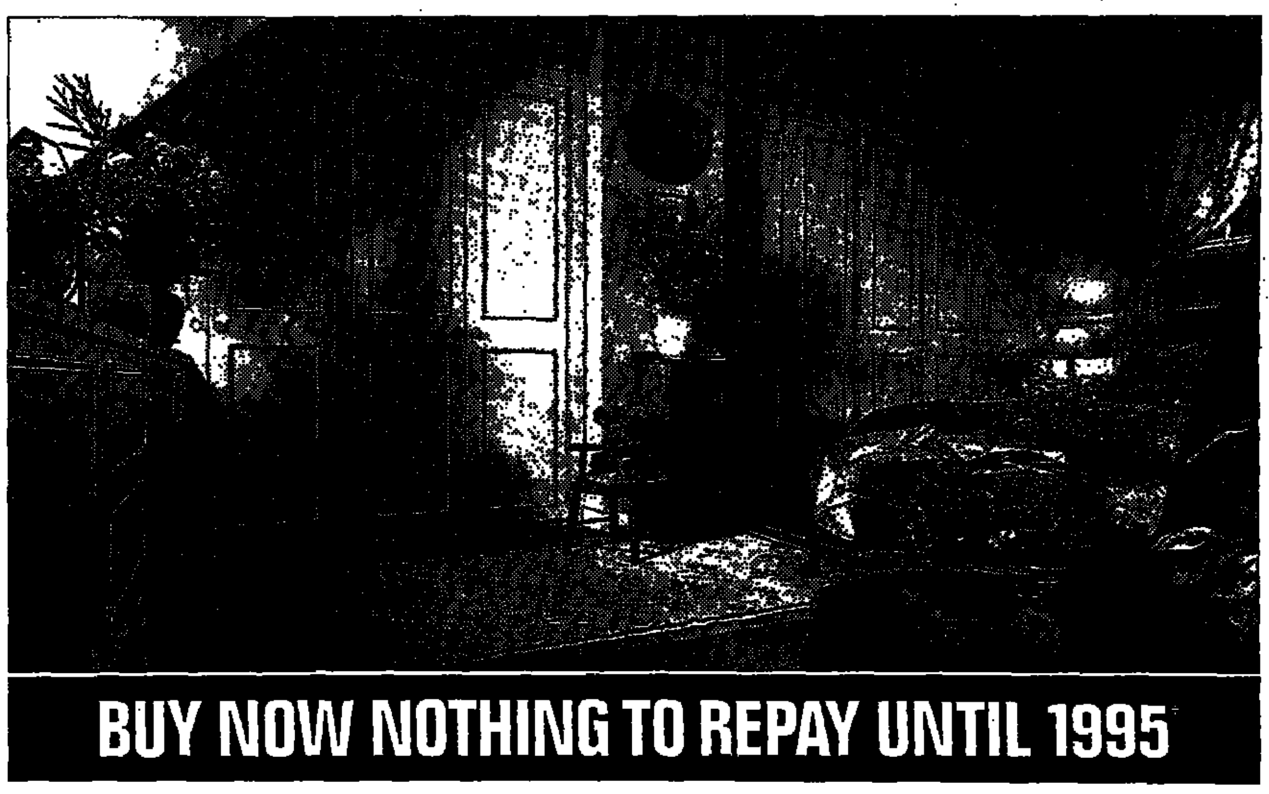

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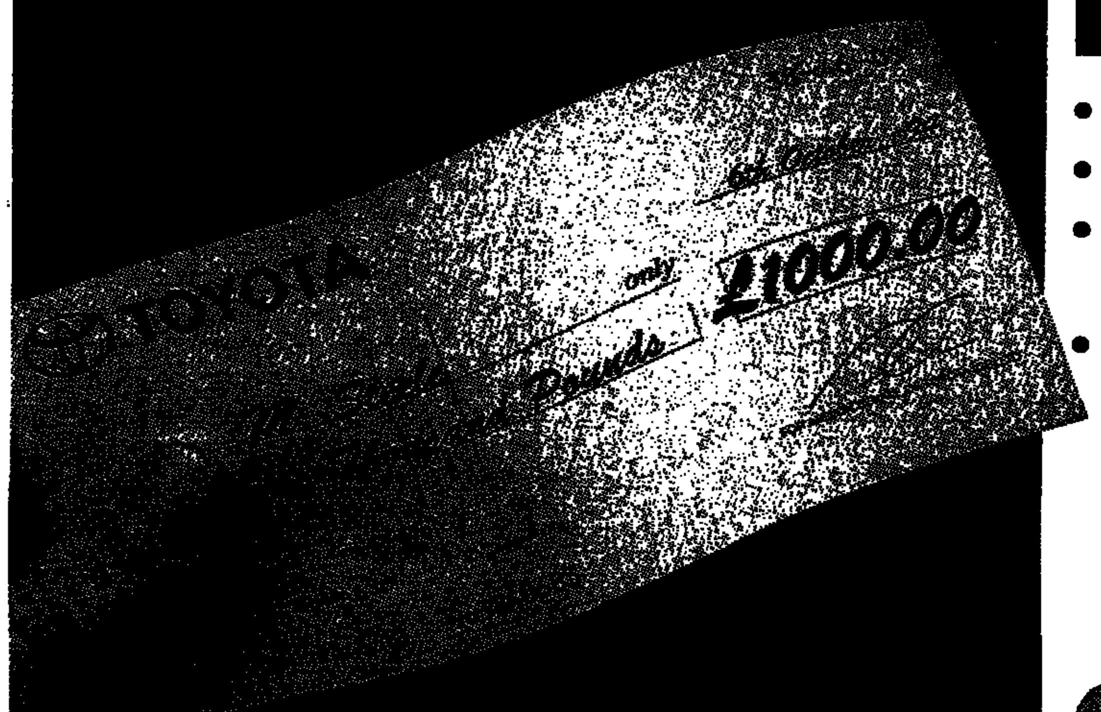

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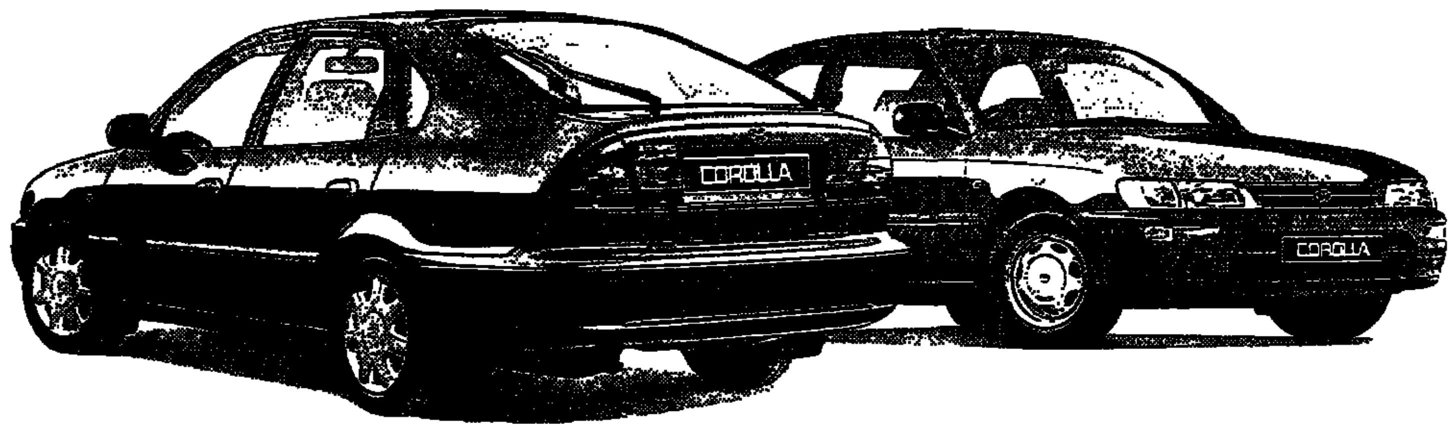

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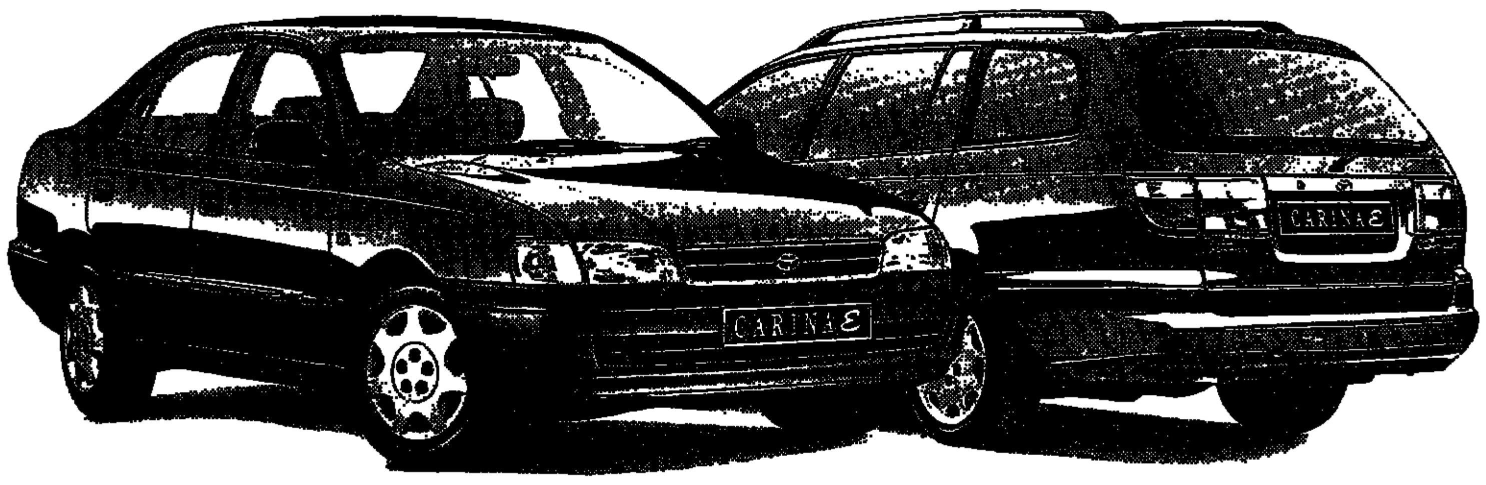

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Karadzic crushes 'plotters' in army

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

THE Bosnian Serb authorities say they have crushed an illegal network within the army and secret services which was plotting to undermine the state.

Although it was not disclosed for whom they were working, sources in Belgrade confirmed yesterday that there was "no doubt" that the group was connected to the intelligence services of President Milosevic, the Serbian leader.

The Bosnian Serb Interior Ministry said that the majority of those arrested were active or reserve members of the Bosnian Serb Army. It said that they belonged to "an illegal group who committed several crimes with the aim of crippling the functioning of state institutions". Some of those detained are alleged to belong to a key intelligence unit which operated under the codename Typhoon.

Sources in Belgrade said that in any attempt by Mr Milosevic to organise a coup *to overthrow* Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, those now under arrest would have played important roles.

The Interior Ministry statement said that police raids had discovered "large quantities of arms, ammunition, explosive devices, forged documents and devices for secret communications and bugging. Those arrested were also accused of robbery and "disclosing state secrets".

While there were already reports earlier this month that Typhoon group members were being arrested, it appears significant that military personal are now being detained. There has been no word on the arrests from General Ratko Mladic, the *Bosnian Serb military leader*, but the signs point to a purge being underway.

President Milosevic broke relations with the Bosnian Serb leadership on August 4 because of their refusal to agree to the current peace plan for the republic. Since then there have been consistent reports that Mr Milosevic was attempting to organise the downfall of Dr Karadzic.

The arrests appear to have taken place in the northern Bosnian Serb town of Banja Luka. No figures for the number of those detained were given. Last year soldiers in Banja Luka staged a mutiny, allegedly against poor conditions and corruption. Banja Luka politicians have also long resented the sway *held over Bosnian Serb* politics by legislators from Sarajevo, who now live in nearby Pale.

Dr Karadzic has spent the past six days in Banja Luka and in a press conference he said that the Typhoon group had been founded before the first multiparty elections in Bosnia in 1990. He said that he had then received an offer of help from a group of Yugoslav military intelligence officers "to inform us about our enemies, which was accepted". Sources in Belgrade say that Typhoon later evolved into Dr Karadzic's personal intelligence service.

After that, however, because of its close ties to Mr Milosevic and Yugoslav military intelligence, it became untrustworthy. Dr Karadzic said that he had ordered Typhoon dissolved on several occasions but that his orders had not been carried out.

Dejan Anastasijevic, commentator on the Belgrade weekly *Vreme*, said: "Karadzic is very afraid and the only force in the *Republika Srpska* [the self-proclaimed Bosnian Serb republic] which can jeopardise his position in any way is the army. All these people are professional spies and he is trying to watch his back."

Milosevic: arrests linked to his espionage service

A Bosnian Serb patrol searching a house in the abandoned village of Teslic, central Bosnia, for remaining Muslim infiltrators. The Serb residents fled from their homes after an attack by a Muslim "sabotage unit" earlier this week

Cold comfort for troops denied pants and petrol

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

BRITISH troops in Bosnia have been caught with their pants down. Well, at least, confiscated.

More normally frustrated by sniping, poor communications and an almost permanent lack of petrol, the men on the front line are in for a cold winter. More than 70 pairs of thermal underwear destined *for the Royal Gloucestershire*, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment in Gorazde have been confiscated by Serb troops.

The black, one-piece underwear was really for Bosnian Muslims, the Serb soldiers at the Rogatica checkpoint said. After two hours of patient but heated negotiation that threat*ened to turn nasty, the United* Nations convoy commander in Bosnia-Herzegovina yielded.

"The commander decided it was not necessary to die for a few pairs of trousers," Major Hervé Gourmelon, for the UN, said yesterday. "I cannot tell you why they would want it. Maybe they were cold."

The Serb soldiers also confiscated batteries and other supplies in the same incident, a routine event at the regularly manned checkpoint. In late July, at the same checkpoint, they seized 100 classified Nato reconnaissance photographs from a British convoy bound for Gorazde.

One month after Nato war planes destroyed a Bosnian Serb tank *outside* Sarajevo, these are only some of many provocations that the UN is facing. The most significant crisis is over petrol. The Serbs, who have virtual veto power over UN operations by nature of being the most forceful player in the conflict, are blocking fuel convoys.

UN officers say *they* have only a "few days" of fuel left for armoured vehicles in the most sensitive operation areas. Hardest-hit are the UN-declared "safe areas" of Gorazde, Srebrenica and Zepa. Sarajevo is also highly vulnerable.

A British UN headquarters *officer said*: "It's not yet desperate but we're worried. You've got to have a pretty good reason to drive anywhere."

Since Nato jets bombed the abandoned tank, parked just north of the city, on September 22, the Serbs have stepped up the pressure on the UN. According to a diplomatic source the Serbs have linked the fuel blockage to their ultimatum to the UN to kick Bosnian government troops out of demilitarised areas southwest of Sarajevo. Until the UN manages to evict the government forces from an area under peacekeeping control, the Serbs say they will not allow any fuel in.

Islamic teachers offer pensions in return for jihad

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN ZENICA

■ Traditional tolerance of Islam in Bosnia is being undermined by foreign fundamentalists

The financial support that the Arab organisation Islam Sans Frontières gives Azera is 50 times greater than her dead husband's war salary.

The wife of a martyr, a Bosnian Muslim soldier killed in action last spring, she receives 100 marks (£41) a month for her two children, but there are strings attached.

Her daughter is not yet old enough to go to school. But in return for the money, Azera is encouraged to send her son for an hour each day to the Kuwaiti Organisation for the Rebirth of Islamic Thought in Zenica. Here, besides lessons in Arabic and the Koran, he is given radical Islamic literature by Palestinians and taught in a way that is far removed from anything he *has experienced before*.

His school books include *Attitudes that we have to Change*, published by the Rebirth of Islamic Tradition for Bosnia and Herzegovina, which advocates the implementation of Islamic law, the Sharia, in Bosnia. It is written by Imad Elmisri, an Egyptian commander at a Mujahidin headquarters in Podbrezje, and on its pages the infidel is condemned, socialism and democracy are denounced as enemies of Allah and readers are warned that they will turn into monkeys or pigs should they continue listening to songs with instrumentals or female vocals. Azera's son is eleven.

Azera said: "It is sad that they use our children to spread Islam, children who have alreay lost their fathers. But I do not have any other income and I have to agree to this. It means that we are being paid for believing."

According to figures in aid manifestos, Azera's children are among more than 6,000 orphans in central Bosnia receiving financial aid from one or other of the plethora of non-governmental Islamic aid agencies that have come to Bosnia since its spring federation deal with Croatia. They are strongly financed, most are well motivated, secular and effective, but some are importing more than just aid.

"The Muslims here have turned their back on their faith," Abu Muhammad, a Palestinian working for the Kuwaiti organisation, said. "God and the Koran tell Muslims 'who abandons my orders resists me — this one will be punished'. So these people are being punished by the war until they return to the real way."

The Kuwaiti organisation is heavily involved in propagating a radical brand of Islam in *Bosnia and its actions are* representative of the multifaceted concept of jihad, or holy war. "Jihad is not just about fighting," said a middleman in the introduction of Mujahidin to Bosnia. "It is also about food, money, and the media." That message is being spread through a variety of indigenous and foreign outlets in the state, backed with literature printed in Travnik and Zenica.

A typical product of this style of operation, the Balkan Islamic Centre in Zenica, was established by the Kuwaitis three months ago. One of its many habitués is Elzedin Berbic, 15, a Muslim boy.

"We learn, we talk, we pray together, we are shown films about the Islamic jihad," he said. "The films are different, some in Bosnian, some in Arabic, but they are all about jihad. The war was started to destroy the Muslim people, so now it must be a jihad."

Most Bosnian Muslims, if they display any faith, abide by the decree of their religious leader, Mustafa Ceric, who says they must stick to their historically tolerant interpretation of Islam. But among embittered elements of their society, fundamentalist doctrines are gaining credibility.

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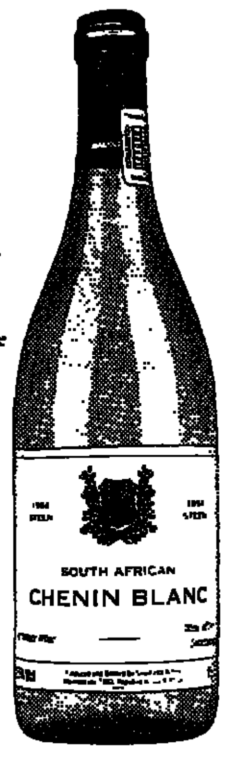

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Inkatha denies recruiting 'hit squad' trainer

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

WALTER Felgate, a senior member of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, acknowledged yesterday that he had commissioned a prominent white right-winger to provide paramilitary training for Inkatha members, but said claims that they were to assassinate African National Congress leaders were preposterous.

Mr Felgate, who gained a reputation as Inkatha's hardline chief negotiator at constitutional talks and is now an Inkatha MP, said that Riaan van Rensburg, a director of a Pretoria company, Crusader Consultants, and a former security adviser to the right-wing Freedom Alliance, had been paid 387,000 rands (£63,000) for providing training.

He said that the training, carried out late last year at a remote location near Louis Trichardt, in northern Transvaal province, a stronghold of militant right-wingers, was to form self-protection units. In the climate of violence that prevailed in South Africa before last April's election, all political parties formed lawful defence units, Mr Felgate said.

Mr van Rensburg said on Thursday he was hired by Inkatha to train a force that Mr Felgate told him would be used "to eliminate from society" ANC leaders in the KwaZulu/Natal region during its final campaign for April's polls which Inkatha entered only at the last minute.

Mr van Rensburg said that Chief Buthelezi, now Minister of Home Affairs in the government of national unity, had approached him in July and August last year and asked him to help to train Inkatha members in "military matters". A group of 60 Inkatha members underwent training at the northern Transvaal base, but the project was called off last December when financial difficulties arose. Mr van Rensburg said Inkatha had paid only about half the 700,000 rands it owed him.

He added that he had applied for indemnity because he believed he would be called before the Truth Commission, for which legislation was published by the government on Thursday.

Mr van Rensburg has admitted involvement with the regime of Brigadier Joshua "Oupa" Gqozo in the former Ciskei homeland where he trained troops and members of the brigadier's bodygard.

Chief Buthelezi has denied having had any dealings with Mr van Rensburg and said that Mr Felgate had assured him the claims were groundless. He said he was "appalled that another unfounded statement about the Inkatha Freedom Party having been involved in hit squad training has been made".

President Mandela embracing Basetsane Makgalemele, the reigning Miss South Africa, when she paid him an informal visit in Pretoria yesterday

Maputo rulers vie for survival with free-market image

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN XAI-XAI, MOZAMBIQUE

FRELIMO, the Liberation Front of Mozambique, is fighting for survival as the country's government. Even if it wins the first democratic election in Mozambique's history, next week, it faces an uncertain future in its transformation from a Marxist-Leninist party of an autocratic elite to a democratically based group dedicated to promoting market forces.

"The party programme has been renewed progressively," Joaquim Chissano, Frelimo's leader and the unelected President of the country, said. "It has to do with the experiences we are facing in Mozambique and also with the changes in the world. Our programme today is based on the market economy."

President Chissano was speaking at a campaign press conference in a beach resort here close to his birthplace in Gaza province, the area that has provided all of Mozambique's presidents since independence in 1975.

Change in the party is not easy, however, and Mr Chissano has been troubled by division in his top hierarchy between the hardliners among the party old guard, veterans of the liberation war against Portugal, and the younger moderates who are more open to market democracy.

The old guard has formed around the figure of Armando Guebusa, the Transport Minister. According to a former Cabinet member, the hardliners believe the Frelimo government was not defeated and compelled to hold elections by Renamo, the Mozambican Resistance Movement, but by an international conspiracy. By appearing to come to an accommodation with Renamo, which took to the bush 16 years ago to fight a fierce civil war, these old radicals believe, the government is giving the rebels status and helping them to garner votes in the election.

Mr Chissano, praised as a master of compromise, is backing away from the idea of a government of national unity, and has promised only a government to include some personalities without party labels.

African intellectuals offer colonial cure for ailing continent

BY SAM KILEY
AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

In his gloomier moments even such a sophisticated academic and diplomat as Ahmedu Ould Abdallah feels that only a form of recolonisation can save Africa from itself.

The Mauritanian diplomat has been close to the heart of the dark continent's darkest moments in Burundi and has watched the trauma in Rwanda. By a process of cajoling and sweet-talking Hutu and Tutsi politicians, Mr Abdallah has so far managed to prevent a resurgence of last year's mass killings in Burundi, when 250,000 people died.

He is angry after working with politicians who appear to understand nothing but hate, and love nothing but death. The abuse of foreign aid workers last month by Hutu refugees in Tanzania and Zaire angered him further.

Mr Abdallah's growing frustration with Africa's inability to put its own house in order is shared by many of the continent's leading diplomats and academics. Mr Abdallah stands on the right of this argument. In his opinion, many former colonial regimes should be sued by their former colonies for forcing independence upon them without first having a referendum.

"The colonial powers ran away before they had left any of the benefits of their influence," he argues. "They left many uncivilised people who, divided ethnically, were incapable of governing themselves."

Professor Ali Mazrui, the Kenyan author of the television series and book, *The Africans*, says African states on the verge of collapse should be "colonised" — not

■ Many believe that the Europeans left before any of the benefits of their occupation could become established

by the West but by their neighbours. Such a view would have been scandalous ten years ago. Professor Mazrui himself would have resisted it. However, the collapse of Liberia, Somalia and Rwanda, impending disasters in Sudan, Zaire, and Angola, and the share-out of dwindling resources among an increasing population have brought him to one conclusion: only parts of Africa can govern themselves.

Professor Mazrui offers a solution: Africa needs a pan-African security council of elder statesmen, backed by the major powers on the continent which, he believes, will be South Africa, Zaire, Egypt, Nigeria and Ethiopia. Their job will be to police the continent, organise the invasion of countries about to collapse, and punish the organisers of mass murder.

In an interview with *The Times* he explained that the council would develop indicators for countries on the point of implosion — the decay of institutions and collapse of basic services, for example.

He suggests that Rwanda and Burundi should become part of a federation with Tanzania. The Tanzanian army should disarm all Hutus and Tutsis. "This would actually unite the warring ethnic groups in a political caucus within Tanzania," he said.

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UN fears for Hutu refugees

FROM REUTER
IN KIGALI

THE United Nations accused Rwanda's new government yesterday of planning to force 800,000 Hutus out of squalid camps in the southwest of the country.

The Rwandan Patriotic Front intends to force displaced people out of the camps on or around next Tuesday, according to UN military observers. Many Hutus took refuge in southwest Rwanda in June, when French troops created a "safe haven" for civilians as mainly-Tutsi guerrillas swept down from the north. When the French pulled out in August, the new government spread its control into the southwest but hordes of Hutus stayed on in camps, living on foreign aid.

Government officials and foreign aid workers have expressed frustration that the UN is still pouring vast amounts of food into the camps three months after the war ended. Many of the Hutus, however, are frightened to leave the camps. A UN spokesman said the 2,000 peacekeepers in the country could take action if civilian lives were endangered.

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Hong Kong democracy defended by Thatcher

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

BARONESS Thatcher, speaking at a charity banquet in Hong Kong last night, defended the rule of law and liberty in the colony and challenged one of Peking's central dogmas: "I do not accept the argument which one occasionally hears that democracy and human rights are somehow not suitable or practical for Asia."

Lady Thatcher, who appeared very energetic during her three days here, departed from remarks she had made in Delhi in September. On that occasion she had praised Deng Xiaoping, China's supreme leader, for not making the Russian mistake and initiating political reforms before the economy was ready. By economically reforming first, Mrs Thatcher had said, political reforms were bound to follow as the demands of the market-place spilled over into political demands.

However, last night she said: "Of one thing I am certain — it doesn't make any difference in the long term whether you start with economic reform or you start with political reform: you will end up with both. That is the lesson of history."

This flies in the face of another of Peking's key beliefs: that only the party can direct China's reforms and economic changes will guarantee the Chinese version of human rights, which are basic food, clothing and shelter.

The concept of the supremacy of the party was further undermined by Lady Thatcher when she predicted that changes in the way China is governed "are bound to follow" and that its people will demand "some say in the laws by which it is governed".

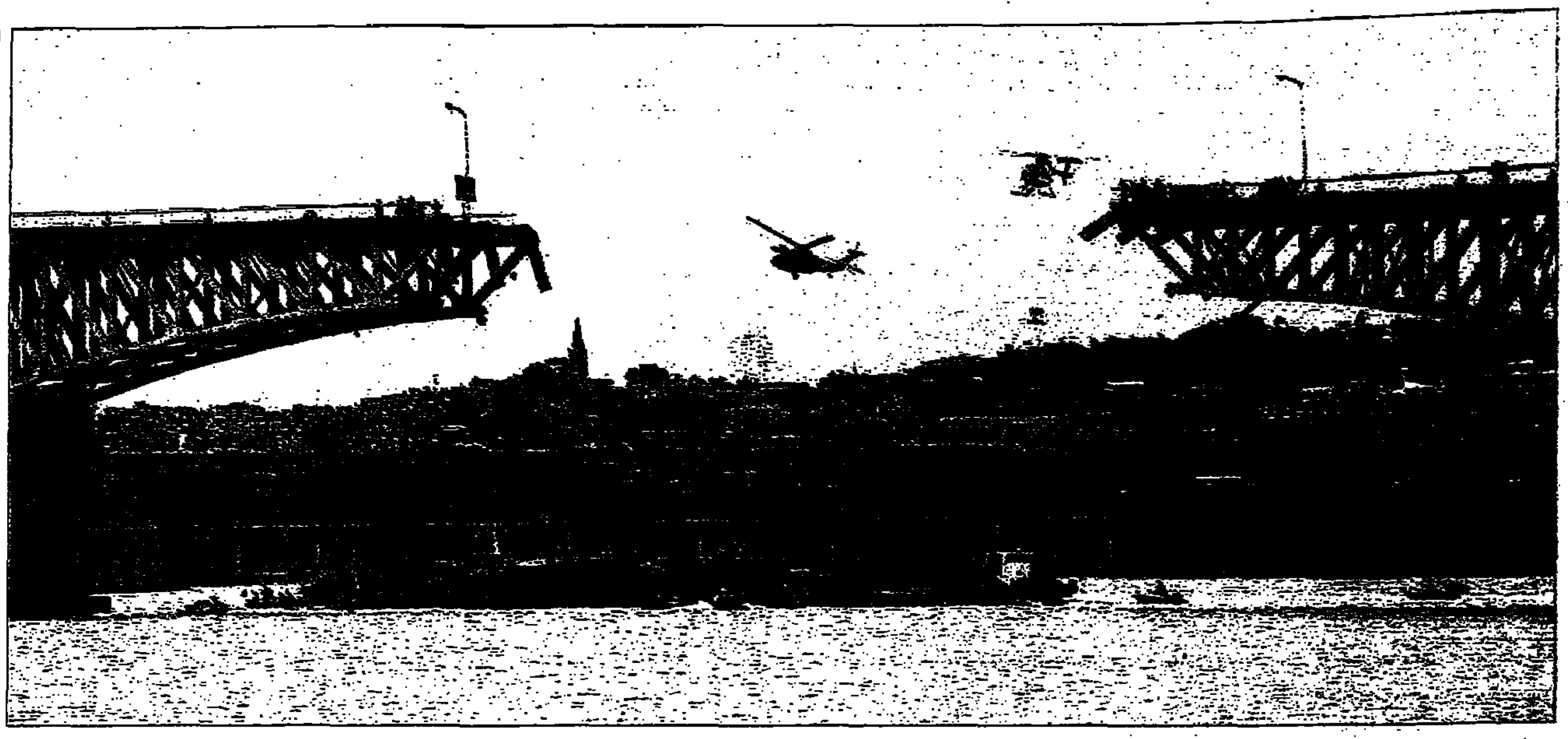
Every country in the world will want to ensure Hong Kong's prosperity "under the rule of law", Lady Thatcher observed, and in a pointed reference to the comparative legal vacuum in China she added: "That is why so many contracts — not least those involving business in China — are negotiated and signed in Hong Kong."

The former Prime Minister said she had booked rooms to be in the colony on July 1, 1997, "to witness the end of Britain's excellent stewardship and the birth of Hong Kong's future with China". She added, to applause: "And I fully intend to continue to come regularly, well after that."

She recalled that good relations with China lasted to 1989, the time of the Tiananmen Square killings, when China began blaming the British for harbouring subversion in the colony, where there were outpourings of sympathy for the demonstrators. That was three years before Chris Patten, the Governor whose reforms have angered Peking, arrived here.

In words that Mr Deng will find difficult to endure, Lady Thatcher remembered "the successful visits to Britain from Mr Zhao Ziyang and Mr Hu Yaobang". Mr Zhao was Prime Minister when he came to London, and Mr Hu the Communist Party's General Secretary. Both were sacked by Mr Deng as being too soft on "bourgeois liberals" and it was Mr Hu's death that set off the 1989 protests.

☐ **Pact commitment:** Britain will remain a member of the Five Power Defence Arrangement after the 1997 handover of Hong Kong. Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, the British Chief of Defence Staff, said yesterday. The group includes Singapore, Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand. *(Reuter)*



RESCUE helicopters hover over the Han river in Seoul, South Korea, yesterday after a central section of a four-lane steel-reinforced concrete bridge collapsed during the morning rush hour, killing 32 commuters. About 15 vehicles plunged 70ft into the rain-swollen river.

Mayor sacked after bridge disaster

Lee Won Jong, Mayor of Seoul, was dismissed and Lee Yung Duk, the Prime Minister, offered to resign after the accident. Some vehicles sank instantly and others, including a packed bus, crashed on to the 165ft-long collapsed section of the Sungsoo bridge which lay just above water level. Rescue workers extricated 17 injured survivors. Nine of the victims were identified as teenage schoolgirls; six had been on their way to the same high school on the north side of the river.

The Prime Minister tendered his resignation as a sign of responsibility for the disaster, which President Kim Young Sam said was a tragedy that should not have taken place in a modern society. Public outrage may force the President to accept the resignation.

President Kim called an emergency cabinet meeting and demanded an investigation with heavy punishment for those responsible. He replaced the mayor with Yoo Myung Koo, Governor of northern Kyongsang province, amid charges of shoddy construction, indifferent repair work, slack observance of weight and load limits and complete disregard of the safety limits.

Surrounded by the dead and working to save the dying, eight men became heroes after their mini-van plunged off the bridge. Jumping out of the vehicle, they pulled people from the damaged bus, dived into the fast-moving river looking for survivors and gave their clothes to the injured. "They were blue with cold. They had to be taken to hospital themselves," a rescue squad leader said.

Last week questions were asked in parliament about the safety of the 17 bridges over the Han; Kim Woo Suk, the Construction Minister, said there was no cause for concern. *(AFP)*

UN admits Somalia failure

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations is to end its controversial military presence in Somalia after the failure of an ambitious plan to rebuild the country from the ruins of famine and civil war.

A team of seven Security Council ambassadors is to travel to Mogadishu on Monday to tell clan leaders that the UN has lost patience with their incessant feuding and will start withdrawing its 15,000 peacekeepers.

The Security Council is expected to extend the peacekeepers' mandate until next March, but to pull the UN troops out before then. The aid effort will continue indefinitely if security conditions allow.

Sir David Hannay, Britain's UN envoy, said that the organisation's efforts had been undermined "by the lack of progress towards political reconciliation". This, he said, implied a phased withdrawal.

UN officials have already begun soliciting aircraft, warships and troops from the key powers to help in the evacuation, which is estimated to take between 60 and 120 days. Italy has promised five or six ships and 400 marines, France has offered one vessel and the United States is still considering its response.

Britain will provide experts in amphibious operations and may also send one of the Royal Navy ships based in the Gulf.

The Somalia operation was the UN's first "peace enforcement" operation in which peacekeepers were authorised to use force to impose a settlement. But troops became mired in a vicious battle with General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, one of the country's two most powerful warlords, taking scores of casualties.

Card monitors Singaporeans

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN SINGAPORE

A THREE-year project to re-register more than two million people in Singapore and issue high-tech identity cards is set for completion today.

The new cards, which must be carried by citizens and permanent residents 18 and older, should enable the government to keep electronic tabs on most people in the city-state. The credit card-sized "smart" cards have barcodes that keep the owner's number and other personal data ready for official inspection. A photograph, thumbprint and personal details are captured electronically and cannot be changed without damaging the card.

Identity cards, a holdover from British colonial times, have been compulsory since 1966. In 1983, owners of monkeys had to obtain cards complete with a photo and "hand-print" of their pets. The current reorganisation of the system began in 1991 and has cost $42 million (£26 million).

From the high-tech cards to even a computerised pig auction, Singapore is being wired for an electronic future. The National Computer Board has issued a master plan to turn Singapore into an "Intelligent Island."

Called IT (Information Technology) 2000, it comprises a web of communications networks, computer databases and consumer electronics that promises to change the way people live and work by linking virtually every home, office, factory, school and hospital.

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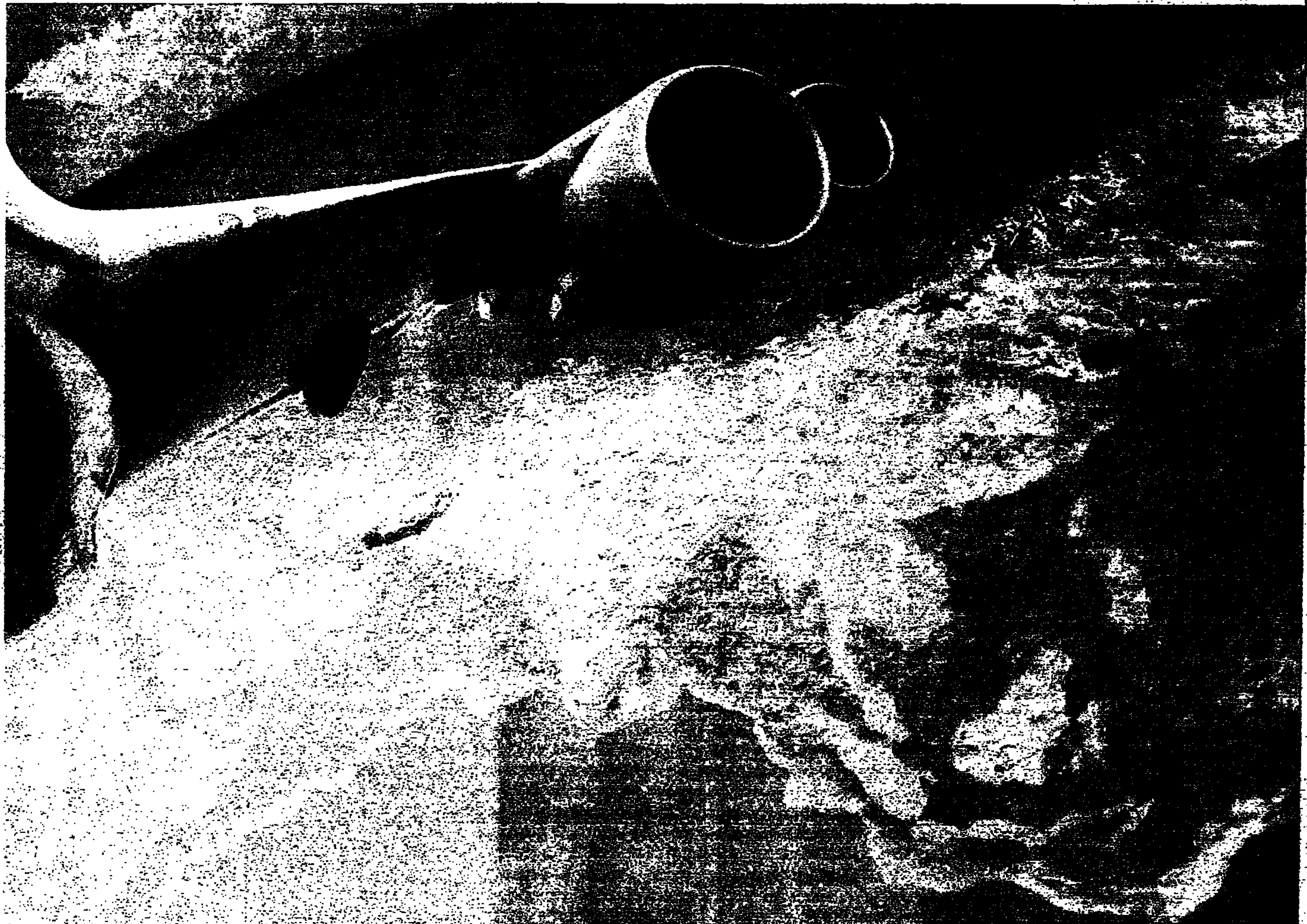

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Congress Speaker fights for seat as novice closes in

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

MID-TERM ELECTIONS

TOM Foley, the personification of Congress in a year when most Americans feel nothing but disgust for that institution, is in danger of becoming the first House Speaker since 1860 to lose his seat.

This familiar figure, with his silver hair, jug-ears and old dog's face, may be America's third most powerful official, but polls put him about 10 points behind his Republican opponent, an engaging Spokane lawyer and political novice named George Nethercutt, 49. In last month's open primary Mr Foley secured just 35 per cent of the vote, his worst performance in the 30 years he has represented this remote northwestern city and its surrounding wheat farms.

Mr Foley's defeat would stun America's political establishment. It would also distress the British Government as he is a prominent anglophile whose support on Irish matters has been invaluable. But he finds himself fighting for political survival in an Alice in Wonderland world in which all the traditional advantages of incumbency have become liabilities.

He flew home from Washington DC to Washington state last week bearing goodies for his district — federal funding for 33 new police officers and new work to secure the future of Spokane's largest employer, the Fairchild air force base. The message was obvious: he has the clout to deliver great benefits to his constituents and they would be crazy not to re-elect him.

In past years he has coasted home on such a platform, but this time voters interviewed in the shopping mall outside his campaign headquarters said Mr Foley's federal largesse actually made them less inclined to support him. It reinforced their conviction that their government was bloated, imperial and rigged to ensure its members' jobs for life. "He's pumping in money because he's running scared," John Nicholl, an unemployed aviation mechanic, said.

Mr Foley has compounded his problems by filing a lawsuit to overturn a 1992 statewide referendum imposing limits on how long politicians can serve. "I would never sue my constituents to save my job," Mr Nethercutt declared in a campaign commercial.

In Mr Nethercutt, moreover, Mr Foley, 65, faces his most serious opponent in years. The Republican's boundless energy contrasts with the Speaker's apparent weariness. His headquarters are buzzing, while Mr Foley's are somnolent. Even Democrats admit Mr Nethercutt's permanent smile masks a shrewd tactical brain.

He talks of returning to the Founding Fathers' concept of "citizen legislators" and pledges to serve no more than six years. He promises to shrink the government, not win more "pork" for his district.

Instead of ranting against Mr Foley, he seeks to kill him with kindness. He calls the Speaker a decent, honourable man who has done a fine job for Spokane, but who has lost touch with his constituents after so many years in Washington. Spokane needs "a listener not a Speaker", he says, and notes that Lyndon Johnson was President when Mr Foley was first elected.

Mr Foley recently attended a reception for supporters in a luxurious hilltop home overlooking Spokane. Despite the polls, the mood was one of confidence, almost complacency. Mr Foley had had tight races before, guests argued. Ultimately the district always voted for the man who could bring home the bacon, not for an opponent who would go to Washington as the most junior of 435 Congressmen. "Why trade in a Cadillac for a skateboard?", asked one.

They may yet be proved right, but they might equally have been underestimating the anger in the city below. There is a precedent. In 1964 Mr Foley was, like Mr Nethercutt, an energetic young Spokane lawyer with a pleasant smile but little political experience. Arguing it was time for fresh blood, he defeated a Republican Congressman of 22 years' standing, who had campaigned on the advantages of his seniority.

Poll predicts tight finish

WITH 18 days left, 20 of the 35 Senate elections and 120 of the 435 House races are dead heats or very close, *The New York Times* said yesterday. The Democrats are defending three-quarters of those seats. The Republicans need to gain seven seats to capture the Senate and 40 in the House.

Tom Foley is a Washington institution. His defeat would stun the establishment

Mercy plea fails to save spy's wife

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

ROSARIO Ames, wife and accomplice of Aldrich Ames, was yesterday jailed for five years and three months for her role in America's worst spy scandal after an emotional appeal by her five-year-old son Paul.

The sentence was the minimum required under a plea-bargain agreement the Ameses reached with prosecutors when they undertook to co-operate with those seeking to determine the damage they had caused to American national interests. It came after pleas for leniency by Mrs Ames, 41, Mr Ames and even her son Paul, and concerted efforts by Mrs Ames to portray herself as a victim of her husband's treachery rather than his helper.

"I beg you, your Honour, Paul needs me," Mrs Ames, dressed in drab prison clothes, told Judge Claude Hilton in a breaking voice during yesterday's 30-minute hearing. She admitted "terrible mistakes" but pleaded: "Paul needs me. Paul is innocent. He did nothing wrong. Please understand that you are not only sentencing me, but Paul too."

Mr Ames, already sentenced to life imprisonment, had written to the judge saying he was the one who betrayed his country and she had helped him only to protect her family. Paul, who is living with Mrs Ames's mother in her native Colombia, had sent the judge a note saying: "Judge. Please make Mommy come fast. I love her. Paul."

Judge Hilton had to decide between the utterly different images of Mrs Ames presented by her defence and the prosecution. Rounding for the first time on her husband, Mrs Ames used long interviews with *The Washington Post* and ABC television this week to suggest she had only discovered her husband was a spy in 1992, and that he had forced her to keep quiet by saying he had given the Russians pictures of her and Paul and that their lives were in danger.

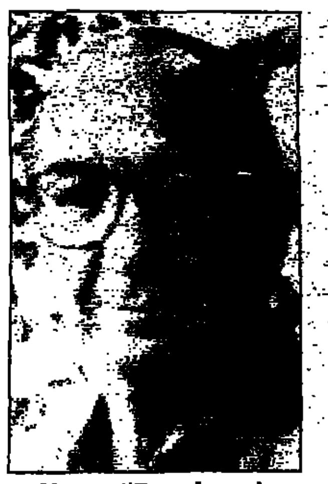
The prosecution accused Mrs Ames of mounting a public relations campaign from her prison cell to "rewrite history", and said she was a willing participant who gleefully helped spend the estimated $2.5 million (£1.5 million) her husband received from Moscow for his treachery.

Wives in cases of espionage have traditionally been treated more leniently than their husbands. Barbara Walker helped her husband, John, for 18 years but was spared imprisonment because she had exposed him. He received life.

Anne Pollard, whose husband Jonathan passed secrets to Israel, received a five-year sentence while he got life, but she was released on medical grounds after three and a half years.

Give my regrets to Broadway

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK



Simon: "Broadway is not economically viable"

NEIL Simon, America's most prolific and popular playwright, has sent his disregards to Broadway with the announcement that his latest play will not be staged on the Great White Way when it opens in New York next year.

Mr Simon has seen 23 of his plays performed on Broadway since *Come Blow Your Horn* opened in 1961.

"It's just not economically viable for us to go to Broadway any more," Mr Simon, 67, told *The New York Times*. The playwright's newest comedy, *London Suite*, has already opened in Seattle to positive reviews, but when it comes to New York it will be shown off Broadway. Emanuel Azenberg, Mr Simon's producer, said.

"It costs a minimum of $1.5 million (£1 million) to bring a straight play to Broadway, versus $500,000 or $600,000 to do the same play off Broadway," Mr Azenberg said, describing the move as an act of war against Broadway theatre owners and the trade unions that have sent costs spiralling.

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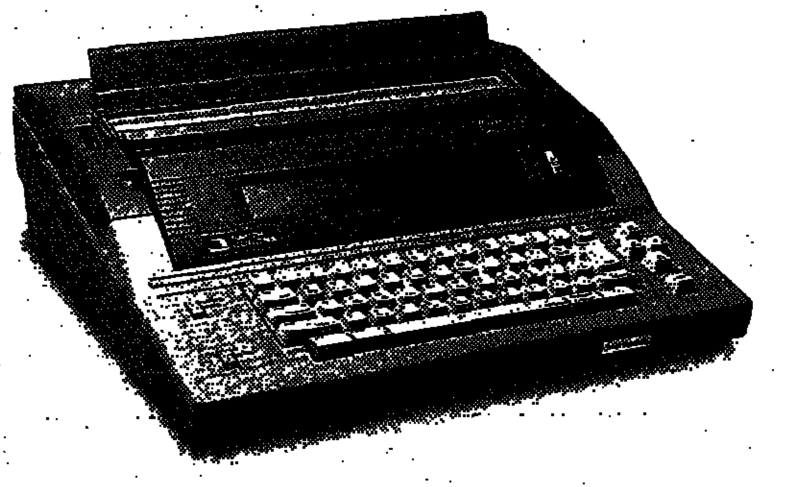

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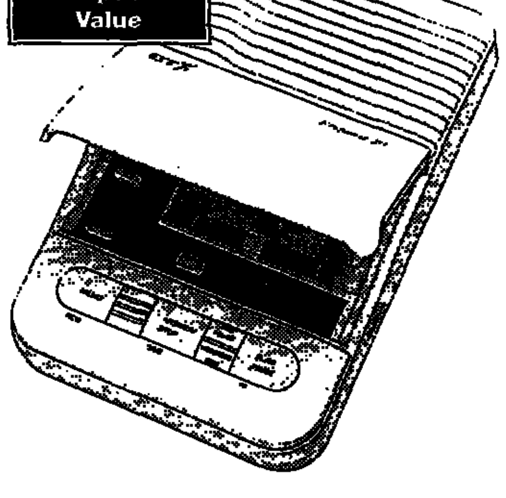

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A politics without decency

David Selbourne says no party now stands for a civic society

The gap between politicians and ordinary citizens is large and growing. Political manoeuvre dictates one thing, but civic *sense and civic interest* increasingly dictate another. In addition, the old reflexes of "left" and "right", and the programmes built upon them, no longer correspond to public anxiety and expectation.

Decreasing numbers of people are now socialist, conservative or liberal in any determinate sense. A citizen may rationally be authoritarian in some respects and libertarian in others, or be simultaneously attracted by the policies of opposed parties. He or she may thus hold a mixture of views unknown to, and unrepresented by, any party.

It is now perhaps the norm in Britain to wish that the country could extricate itself from "Europe", regain its sovereignty and restore its courts' supremacy: redeem educational standards and recover the ethic of the National Health Service: reverse the privatisation of civic institutions; penalise and tame the criminal predator, and rediscover society's lost ethical direction and teach this to the young.

No political party offers a civic politics which combines all these elements. Each may, at best, offer a part, while contributing to the ruin of the whole. The Tories privatise civic institutions while claiming to uphold the civic order. Labour is, as ever, *prone to turn* every want and need into a "right", however anti-social its effects. The Liberal Democrats offer a half-baked politics of social and individual interest, marooned between old "left" and "right": they even argue, incoherently, for both a national Bill of Rights and whole-hog acquiescence with Europe's supranational rule of law.

Little of this connects with public preoccupations. The average citizen looks on with increasing dismay as more and more far-fetched claims to formal "rights" are made on his or her behalf. "Rights" to practice systematic euthanasia, to "divorce" oneself from one's *parents when still a minor*, to take the contraceptive pill at 11 years old, to enter into gay "marriage" with clerical blessing, and to be a post-menopausal, virgin or lesbian parent by means of artificial fertilisation have all been asserted, resisted and gained.

In August, a Bolton boy of 15 with 92 convictions was announced to be seeking damages from his local council for its alleged breach of duty in not having sent him to a school for gifted children. In September, the parents of soldiers accused of murder in Cyprus expected and sought free military flights to attend their trials. In the midst of such extravagance, campaigners who believe that citizenship is merely a compound of rights and more rights tell us that such allegedly limited rights as we possess — in the freest society the world has known — are being tyrannically trampled underfoot.

For all the defects of the British legal and administrative systems, the average citizen believes no such thing. For very many, the shoe-print left by the 17-year-old cocaine addict on the face of the murdered 88-year-old Islington spinster, the blinding in one eye of the self-employed builder in Garston for complaining about children tampering with his car, the robbery at gunpoint of a Bedford building society by 16-year-olds in their school *lunch-hour* stop sympathy for the politics of rights dead in its tracks.

What is at issue here, and still seemingly beyond the ken of "sophisticated" opinion, is fear for the civic bond itself. The train-driver found drunk in his cab (Camden Town), the pensioner lying dead in his flat, undiscovered for three years (Harlesden), the youth in court on a burglary charge with "Fuck the Law" on his T-shirt *(Aldridge), the hoax-callers* during the Abbie Humphreys kidnap (Nottingham) and the increasing numbers of attacks on public servants — doctors and nurses included — all deeply offend the civic sense. They offend it, moreover, in ways which transcend old interests of class and party, and the offence is moral.

> Citizens are offended, and the offence is *moral*

It is in this realm that politicians are least at ease and most often fail us. But there are also signs of an ethical change. Indeed, at a time when private security guards have come to outnumber the police, there will *have to be such* a change, or government itself will lose its legitimacy in the citizen's eyes. The civic pressure is on, and not merely because of "sleaze".

Justly nervous of public opinion, the Government has retreated from wholesale privatisation of the Post Office (although those Tories who seek to defend such national institutions continue, oddly, to be called "rebels"). Small beer as it may be, considering the damage already done, the Royal Mint and Forestry Commission lands are to remain in public hands.

Labour, now wrestling with *some of its anti-civic socialist* demons — trade union corporatism, universal welfare, false theories of equality — has stopped much of its old reflex scoffing at concern about family breakdown, youth crime, dereliction or parental duty and falling educational standards.

But for all its new-found rhetoric about responsibility, Labour remains the party of rights and more rights, and of the satisfaction of welfare demands; while for *all its rhetoric* about "civic conservatism", the Conservative Party has dismantled some of the nation's most important civic institutions.

In these respects, each party remains distant from the public temper; and each continues to espouse a politics with which most people agree only in part. Neither the aspiration to cut taxes nor the desire to establish a minimum wage addresses the fundamental *national issue: the gradual* dissolution of the civic order.

Christopher Driver looks back on more than 40 years of the search for fine cuisine

Good food, good wine and good company

When I met Jim Ainsworth, the new editor of *The Good Food Guide*, some 15 years ago, he was starting a little restaurant in Northampton, a daring attempt. I was still the *Guide's* editor, and my colleagues deputed me to eat lunch. I see that "crêpe aux asperges and andouillette lyonnaise both suffered from rather amateurish cooking and presentation, but the soundness of the intentions re-emerged with the cheese: Milleens from Castletownbere, would you believe?" Ainsworth then turned up in London as a wine correspondent, but our paths did not cross until he was about to take up his job at the Consumers' Association and I was anxious to see him before an operation.

A touch of sentimentality lingered with the brandy. I first ate a *Good Food Guide* meal in 1954, as a bumptious Oxford undergraduate. The last meal I ate with Raymond Postgate, the founder of the *Guide*, was in 1970, when he was dying and was forbidden wine. I was already in charge of my first *Guide*; there were to be 12 in all. Raymond wrote nine; *they were biennial then, and in 1970* we were naïve enough at the Consumers' Association to think that we couldn't possibly sell 50,000 copies of a genuine restaurant guide every year without a famous name palming them out to publicity officers on commercial lines.

But we could: 25 years ago, restaurants and chefs started to change the style, and customers wanted to know how to cook and eat. The London section, at least, often became out of date before the guides were printed.

I resigned in 1982, and since then editors have seemed to come and go more quickly: Drew Smith (not my choice), Tom Jaine, the archivist and restaurateur from the Carved Angel in Dartmouth, and now Jim Ainsworth.

The astonishing thing, after 44 years and given the kaleidoscopic *nature of catering and eating, is the Guide's* tenacity of style. It is the habit of British restaurants and hotels to break up after about ten years, unfortunately. We do not have the solidity of French families, backed up by the Michelin system. I am glad to see Jim Ainsworth listing 20 restaurants and hotels which are continuous from Raymond's initial *Good Food Guide*, such as the Connaught Hotel and the Gay Hussar. But there may be at least 200 "starred" Michelin places where families live and run them for generations.

The 44 years of *Guides* are a remarkable back-list of catering. The Guildhall specialist collection of books, including the entire run of *Good Food Guides* is much easier to use than the British Library newspaper collection at Colindale. Alas, the five editors were unable to *prevent the Consumers'* Association from junking the mass of paper: 5,000 files and 40 years. From all that, I was able to rescue a few files about famous places and people (Rebecca West on Sharrow Bay, for instance) and some of the funniest accounts, with Hope Chenhalls and Aileen Hall, the two chief inspectors who ran the system for 30 years, describing the food and the social *mores* when they returned from lunch — confidentially!

Some of the flavour of the times and exchanges should be shared with a new generation. A BBC interviewer was astonished when I told him that Raymond Postgate found it necessary to ensure that a restaurant or hotel was dropped from the *Guide* as soon as it was reliably reported that a landlord was operating a "whites only" policy. *He* was too young to know that race discrimination laws *had to be fought for step by step by* people of Raymond's calibre. A *Guide* reader had expressed his own reluctance "to feed in the British counterpart of a Kaffir hut".

Postgate's reply must have spoilt his correspondent's breakfast: "I would ask you not to report to us in the future. There are degrees of loutishness which prove a man to be incapable of judgment, even on the matter of food and drink."

Happily, the new editor's *Good Food Guide* has appeared almost simultaneously with John Postgate's biography of his father, *A Stomach for Dissent*, published by Keele University Press. It is salutary to realise that before the first *Good Food Guide* appeared, Raymond Postgate was 50, and — as the first 250 pages of the book tell — his extraordinary life had already run from classical Greek and Oxford prison to novels and Labour politics. John Postgate naturally also writes fully about his mother, Daisy (Lansbury), a much better cook than Ray.

But one story is missed. During the 1960s, at one of the publication parties at Hendon Lane, I found myself next to Daisy, who leant over and whispered, "You know, I don't *like* food". Considering that she had an unknown journalist beside her, she took a risk!

The 1995 Good Food Guide *is published by the Consumers' Association at £14.99.*

Of pots and kettles

While professional life is eased by sweeteners and favours, politics must be seen to be above all that

Simon Jenkins

He that is without sleaze, let him first cast a stone. It has been another good week for hypocrisy.

Rumour has it that there is a little book under lock and key at British Airways. It dates, I should add, from BA's darker past. The book is said to contain a list of names. They include stars of stage, screen and tennis court, artists, writers, journalists, even editors. Pride of place goes to MPs and peers, any who might casually have murmured to their *secretaries: "By the way, Susan, be a* love and call the VIP office at BA. See if there's any chance of an upgrade on tonight's flight to Nice."

Usually there was a chance. And somebody put the name in the book. And, the rumour continues, alongside that name is a tally of the cash difference between the economy fares and the club-class or first-class fares. Against some names, this figure runs well above any cash-for-questions payment. BA may have hired Ian Greer to hire MPs to "put its case" in Parliament; column after tainted column of Hansard may testify to *their industry; but how comfortable* for BA to have a nuclear weapon tucked in the bottom drawer, should ministers show too much favour to the uppity Richard Branson.

But who am I to call the kettle black? Let me risk professional suicide. I could leaf through the pages of this or any other daily newspaper and above each column of print I could mischievously append a sum of money. Sometimes it will be trivial, the price of a nice briefcase with the presspack and a glass of champagne at the launch. Sometimes it will be a *£100 lunch or a £300 day at Wimble*don or evening at the opera. Sometimes it will be the works: a free trip to Paris, perhaps to meet the nice Mr Al-Fayed and afterwards receive a vast hamper from Harrods (curiously never refused). Even the most seductive of gifts carries with it the nagging expectation of return. Bribery costs money. The BBC, holier-than-all last week on cash-for-questions, is reputed to have spent more than £12 million in the past year on press and political lobbying to secure its new charter. How many MPs did *the Corporation buy through its bevy* of parliamentary retainers? I am sure it can account for every penny as well spent.

I recall a recent court case in which a company's procurement clerks were taken to the Continent by a supplier for a weekend and given cash in an envelope "for expenses". The law caught up with them and they were prosecuted. In their defence, they subpoenaed information on gifts from the same supplier to the company's directors. These included Christmas cases of wine, costly trinkets and tickets to Twickenham *and Wimbledon. The total per direc*tor was worth far more than the clerks had received. Gifts in kind are "tokens of appreciation". Only cash is sleaze. The bosses go to the Ritz. The working classes go to jail.

I wonder how many readers of this article have never taken a bribe, an unsolicited gift, a "consideration", in the course of life's great barter. Of all the grey areas of a profession, none is greyer than this. Why, I wonder, does my doctor offer me this new drug? Why does the insurance broker recommend this pension company? Why does the tour operator go to this cash*mere shop? Why does the minister* invite officials to dine with this merchant bank? The answer is that somebody somewhere some time money or something that cost money has upped and moved down the road. The way has been smoothed. Adam Smith's "invisible hand" has been given a liberal coating of grease.

When the Transport Secretary, John MacGregor, recently left office and went straight to work for Hill Samuel, it looked bad. His department had just awarded the company a fat contract. His friends were furious that anyone should question his integrity. How dare they suggest that Mr MacGregor "of all people" was not pure as driven snow? The same goes for Lords Tebbit, Young and Wakeham and Sir Norman Fowler, all on the boards of recently privatised companies. The same goes for the innumerable former ministers now assisting banks and consultancies with their relations with Whitehall, which have blossomed into multi-million-pound contracts for work previously done by civil servants.

I would say the same of myself. I will declare hand on heart that if I ever took a gift in kind, it never influenced a word I wrote. But bribing journalists, *I* am told, is regarded by hard-headed public relations men as a good investment. They would not waste their money. In the famous declension, he is sleazy, you are sailing close to the wind, I am being helped with my research. All I can do is be perpetually on guard and look askance at every Harrods hamper.

"King Cash" was shown by a cartoonist as the "election boss" back in 1883: since then politics generally have probably become cleaner

The difference in politics is that appearances matter. I do not believe politicians are more corrupt than they ever were. My impression is that they are more dedicated, more assiduous on behalf of their constituents, less inclined to moonlight and more ambitious and therefore careful than of old. Their mistake has been to start legislating and lecturing the public on its morals, its social behaviour and its family life. For this reason, the public is strongly inclined to hit back. It is inclined to tell Caesar in no uncertain terms to look to his wife.

Thus I find it astonishing, given the published evidence, that Lady Thatcher's family can be exonerated in secret by her fellow politicians of any wrongdoing in the Saudi arms contract affair. I find it astonishing that one senior Tory politician, Michael Heseltine, should apparently be in a position to exonerate another, Lord Archer, of insider dealing. I find it astonishing that *Downing Street can spend millions of* pounds on the now wholly farcical Scott inquiry, yet brush aside the public money blown on the Pergau dam deal.

I am baffled by Parliament's toleration of paid lobbyists using MPs as fronts for publicising their clients in the House of Commons. Enoch Powell believed it "impugned his integrity" to make him reveal his business interests. I suppose that dope-testing impugns the integrity of a modern athlete. At very least, Ian Greer and his colleagues should be given a credit on these pages in Hansard for which they have paid. When MPs speak to a client's brief, they should be introduced by the Speaker as "the Honourable Member for British Aerospace" — and referred to as such in the press.

No reasonable person could have objected last Thursday to Tony Blair's three demands. First, ministers should not be allowed to take jobs with companies they have privatised or with companies to which they have awarded large contracts. Some former ministers may find this unfair. Tough on them. They can find a quango on which to sit. Nobody is saying they are corrupt, but as an ordinary taxpayer spending tens of millions of pounds on City consultancy, I would rather be safe than sorry. Second, the basis on which the Government's burgeoning army of quangocrats are selected must be declared. Third, if MPs insist on self-regulation above the law, they had better show they can do it. At present *the so-called Committee of Privileges* makes Lloyd's of London look like a pillar of regulatory rectitude.

British politics is not rotten to the core. Given the temptations, and compared to half the professions, it is surprisingly clean. The cleanliness needs regular refreshing. Hercules needs a running contract on the Augean stables. People are enraged to see Tory party donors and activists packing the myriad appointed boards, councils and executives by which John Major chooses to run much of Britain's public administration. At the last count (by Charter 88), there were 5,500 executive and 1,500 advisory quangos, *spending roughly* a third of all public expenditure. I am sure the whips can personally vouch for the probity of all their thousands of appointees. To the public, *it just looks like a racket.*

After 15 years in government the Tory party should be specially wary of the charge of abusing its power. Mr Major's bland response to Mr Blair on Thursday — that political ethics were safe in the Government's hands — merely invites the charge. In this matter the present Government is not so much venal as plain stupid.

Out of time

THE CONTENTS of a "time-capsule" buried for future generations appear to have been censored because of the sleaze engulfing the Government. No daily newspapers were included in the capsule buried yesterday by David Curry, the Environment Minister.

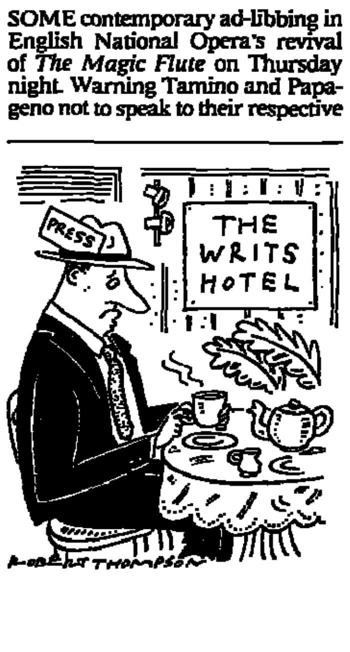
A Government official at the burial ceremony in Leeds suggested this was because the day's news was none too complimentary to Curry's colleagues in government. *"Usually a copy* of the day's newspaper, or even a video of the latest news programme, is one of the first things on the list for a time-capsule," he said. "The organisers had apparently decided it may be too embarrassing to present the minister with the paper."

British Gas Properties, owners of the site where the capsule was buried, strenuously deny such an explanation. The list had been drawn up the previous day, long before it was known what the papers would contain, said a spokesman. Curry distanced himself too: "I do not believe anyone left out papers to spare my blushes."

Future generations may not have the sleaze: they will make do with a mobile phone, a CD, a Cindy Crawford workout video, a Leeds United scarf and sundry items from McDonald's.

Curses

SOME contemporary ad-libbing in English National Opera's revival of *The Magic Flute* on Thursday night. Warning Tamino and Papageno not to speak to their respective lovers, a priest said: "Anyone who breaks this vow of silence will be punished with thunder, lightning . . . and an authorised biography."



When the production was running at the height of the Maastricht debate, the same second priest rounded off the list of punitive measures with a threat even more severe: ". . . and a three-line whip."

● *Burt Lancaster, who died yesterday, was not the Hollywood beefcake in his youth. In the late 1930s, short of work, he sold lingerie in Chicago's Marshall Fields department store.*

Breed apart

MORE on ambassadorial dogs, after news that Mrs Crowe, wife of the American Ambassador to the Court of St James, is about to collect her yellow labrador from the quarantine kennels. Lady Birch, wife of our man in Budapest, returns with Sir John to Britain early next year, and is about to have her two wire-haired viszlas, the Hungarian breed, locked away.

Sir John turns 60 next year, and will leave Hungary after nearly five years. "I hope the law will change before then, but probably it's a vain hope," moans Lady Birch who

THE TIMES DIARY

has been lobbying discreetly. She raised the matter recently with Princess Michael of Kent, who recommended firing off a letter to her husband, *the president of the Kennel Club.*

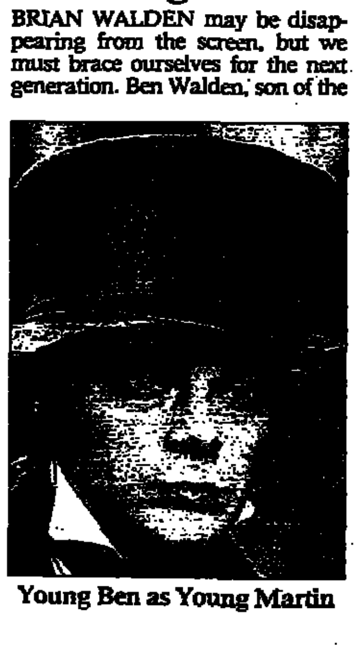
● *Normally the most diplomatic of newspapers, the* Financial Times *yesterday printed an article by Kim Chul-su, the South Korean minister for trade. Sadly it printed the North Korean flag on the front-page puff in its international edition.*

Last ditch?

ONE could be forgiven for thinking that the beleaguered Industry Minister Neil Hamilton is retrenching: a JCB will be digging a large ditch in his Cheshire garden this morning. I am assured, however, that this is no fortification. Hamilton is simply altering the course of his stream. Hamilton lists gardening in *Who's Who* as one of his interests, another being "silence". No comment.

Coming next

BRIAN WALDEN may be disappearing from the screen, but we must brace ourselves for the next generation. Ben Walden, son of the lisping interviewer who roasts politicians for Sunday lunch, will soon be seen on television.



Young Ben as Young Martin

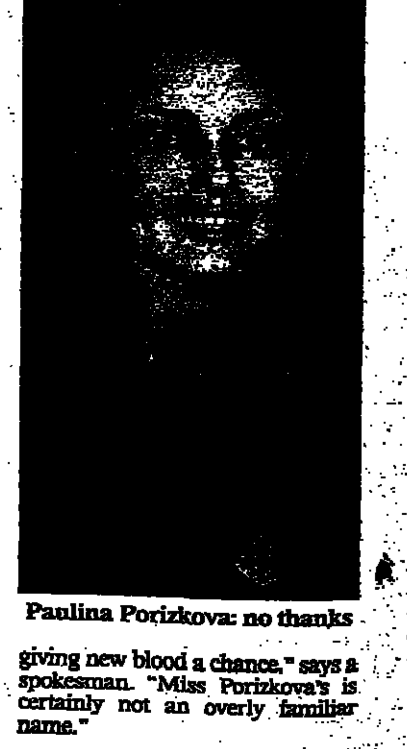
The 25-year-old actor is as lean and hungry as his father — but he is not after political scraps. He will play Young Martin in the BBC's adaptation this autumn of Dickens's *Martin Chuzzlewit*. "Young Martin is a deeply unsympathetic character without being a glorious cad," explains Ben.

Broken Bond

JAMES BOND does not have the pulling-power he once did. The Czech model Paulina Porizkova, the face of Estée Lauder cosmetics, has turned down the chance to play leading lady to Pierce Brosnan's Bond. I understand that not enough money was offered by Eon Productions, which is producing the new 007 film *Goldeneye*, due to start shooting in January.

According to well-placed sources, Eon offered Porizkova around £140,000: "And that was for six months work. It wasn't enough." Eon will not comment on why Porizkova failed to land the role, but Brosnan is said to be getting upwards of £1 million.

"It's certainly not because she hasn't had much acting experience — the Bond films have a history of giving new blood a chance," says a spokesman. "Miss Porizkova's is certainly not an overly familiar name."



Paulina Porizkova: no thanks

P·H·S

THE SEMTEX TEST

For a lasting peace, the IRA must surrender its weapons

John Major's speech in Belfast yesterday answered many of the questions which have been asked about the Anglo-Irish peace process since the Downing Street declaration in December. It was a sincere speech which included moments of true statesmanship. He has offered the republican movement an opportunity to join official negotiations on the future of the province. Republican leaders would be foolish to squander it.

Mr Major's "working assumption" that the IRA ceasefire is permanent is a sensible formulation, striking the right balance between confident expectation and necessary scepticism. To engage in lengthy semantic debate with Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein's president, about the nature of the cessation would have been futile. Better to explore ways of making a resumption of violence politically and logistically impossible.

Mr Major's renewed promise of an assembly for the province was particularly welcome, suggesting that the Government has not lost sight of the need to nurture local democracy and a mature political culture in Ulster. Opening the borders between North and South is a also a momentous and welcome step. The development of a healthy economy in the island requires the easy mobility of goods and people between the United Kingdom and the Republic. Open borders will increase the attractions of the province to outside investors; it will also improve the quality of life for many. The removal of the exclusion orders on Mr Adams and his deputy, Martin McGuinness, follows logically from the end of the broadcasting ban. Sinn Fein's leaders can no longer hide behind the charge of censorship. They will be judged on the mainland by what they say and do.

Far more perilous was Mr Major's prediction that exploratory talks with the republican movement will begin by the year's end. Much has been made of the differences betweeen Sinn Fein and mainstream constitutional parties, and the severe difficulties which will arise should Mr Adams ever sit down with British ministers. But the first phase of exploratory talks could be even more fraught. In a letter to the Sinn Fein president in April, Roderic Lyne, the Prime Minister's foreign affairs secretary, set out the form these preliminary discussions might take. Before contact with ministers, the republican movement will have to clarify its position on violence and discuss the "practical consequences". This, in essence, means the surrender of IRA arms. Mr Major cannot possibly negotiate with Sinn Fein — or Loyalist paramilitary groups — with the threat of renewed violence hanging over his head. He must therefore demand that the terrorists hand over their arms.

This process will be messy. The global trade in guns is so free that the IRA could hand over 500 rifles and replace them within weeks. In practice, the success of the disarmament process should be judged by the amount of Semtex explosive which is handed over. It is calculated that the IRA took delivery of about three tons from Libya during the 1980s: it should be possible for the security services to judge whether the terrorists have genuinely renounced violence or not.

More even than the achievement of the ceasefire, this will be the most difficult stage of the Prime Minister's peace process. There are many within the republican movement who still oppose the cessation; it is said to have been approved by the IRA's military council only by a majority, rather than unanimously. Last month, Mr McGuinness said in an interview that he would be laughed out of the room if he asked the IRA to hand over their weapons. That may be so. But Mr Major is right to insist that he try.

ECONOMIC COUPS

Russia's budget day is coming and Yeltsin cannot hide

As *Britannia* slipped her St. Petersburg moorings, it was no wonder that Boris Yeltsin expressed sadness that the Queen's visit to Russia was over. For the Russian President, it had been a comforting chance to play host, a moment's quiet in the storm raised by last week's rouble crisis.

This was no overnight squall, however. Just when people were beginning to believe that Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, might deliver on his pledge of sound money, the nation's confidence in the Russian government's competence and good faith has been severely jolted. Nor is that all. Mr Yeltsin's hasty and disturbingly autocratic response to last week's drama has made an already tense situation more difficult. When he needed to convey solidity and unity at the top, he sought to distance himself from blame at the price of further weakening and dividing the government.

The reformers are hitting back. Mr Yeltsin's appointment of a posse from the defence, military and intelligence ministries to "investigate" has been publicly castigated by Sergei Aleksashenko, the government's radical young budget minister, as "an economic military coup". Certainly, it harks back to Soviet habits. So did his warning this week, as thousands of Russians attended the funeral of a reporter who was investigating corruption in the military when a suitcase bomb killed him, that journalists "must work within a specific ethical framework".

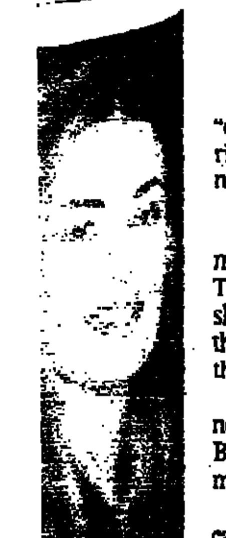
To govern effectively, Mr Yeltsin needs the support of the reforming editors he has thus alienated. If the public is to tolerate further austerity, the need for it has to be clearly explained — as the widespread strikes expected next week should impress on the Kremlin. To govern at all, he relies heavily on Mr Chernomyrdin's influence with the old guard in the Duma, the Russian parliament. But by sacking the finance minister last week and demanding the head of Viktor Gerashchenko, the chairman of the Russian Central Bank, without even consulting the Prime Minister, Mr Yeltsin has weakened him at a critical moment. Under the understandably dyspeptic eye of the International Monetary Fund, in Moscow to negotiate a stand-by loan on which Russia is counting to bridge its budget deficit, Mr Chernomyrdin is poised to present an extremely tough 1995 budget to the Duma.

Back from his not so mysteriously prolonged holiday in Sochi, Mr Chernomyrdin did his best yesterday to give the impression that he was firmly in the prime minister's saddle and that business — in the shape of "a tougher line on economic reforms" — continues as usual. Rumours of his resignation have been quashed. But the impression of a serious rift in the Kremlin lingers and will lessen his chances of winning what was bound to be a bitter struggle with the Duma over the budget. The Duma could also refuse to accept the resignation of Mr Gerashchenko, whose replacement at the Central Bank by Tatyana Paramonova is the one gain from last week's turbulence on the currency markets. Mr Chernomyrdin cannot even be entirely confident of surviving next Thursday's vote of confidence in the government.

Mr Yeltsin, presiding over a summit of the 12-member Commonwealth of Independent States yesterday as though all were well, had the satisfaction of announcing agreement on creating an inter-state economic committee to coordinate monetary policy. But it is meaningless unless Russia gets its own financial house in order, and Mr Yeltsin personally bears a large share of responsibility for the monetary backsliding which directly led to the run on the rouble. Mr Aleksachenko is not the first Russian minister to complain of Mr Yeltsin's airy disregard for monetary rigour when he has lobbies to appease. But by setting out his complaints in a Russian newspaper, he has challenged Mr Yeltsin to state equally publicly his unequivocal backing for the 1995 budget. In Russia's interest and his own, Mr Yeltsin must rise to that challenge between now and Thursday morning.

AUNT AGATHA SEES THE BILL

When the Drones hit the Ritz, the bottom line is high



"Greer. Greer. Stop lobbying around in that ridiculous way, and come over here. I have a not inconsiderable bone to pick with you."

"You called, my lady?"

"Why have you been letting my nephew mix with the hellhounds from Fleet Street? They are camping on our doorstep and shouting impertinent questions. It is worse than when you allowed him to go to law over that television programme."

"I am told that the Gentlemen of the Press no longer work from Fleet Street, madam. But there is no doubt that they have become more obtrusive lately."

"Shut up! Explain to me how your master can run up a hotel bill of £4,221 for a week."

"This was not just any French hotel, my lady. The establishment you animadvert on was the Paris Ritz. Mr Hamilton's friends at the Westminster Drones Club would have been disappointed if he had not tested its amenities to glass-breaking point."

"Greer. Are you trying to tell me that such a frivolous excursion justifies spending more than £200 a night on dinner, and £72.16 on the minibar in his room on a single day?"

"I am assured that Members travel from all over the United Kingdom to enjoy the *Grenouilles au Vestibule Sucré* of the celebrated chef, Monseigneur Grylls, in his Lobbyist Restaurant. A glass of champagne costs £11, and I dare say that Mr Hamilton felt the need to contrast and compare."

"Poppycock, Greer. Why does the boy need to stay in such pseudo Second Empire luxury, using his chauffeur-driven Mercedes to return to the Ritz for tea, and charging centimes for postage stamps?"

"Your favourite nephew is a flamboyant man, my lady, determined and of decidedly firm views: but Isaiah Berlin he is not. I have often deplored his exotic taste in bow-ties and methods of execution. The Paris Ritz is the sort of hotel-from-home he would enjoy."

"Just so long as he does not expect his long-suffering aunt to pay his bill."

"I understand that there is no question of that, madam. Having tried, unsuccessfully as usual, to touch Oofy Prosser for his jaunt, he ended up having it as what the sanctimonious journalists describe as a freebie. I am informed that some of them are not averse to enjoying such arrangements themselves. The proprietor, a kindly Egyptian gentleman, picked up his account."

"But doesn't it look funny, Greer, especially now he has been appointed Minister for Business Probity? I am counting on you to see that the dear boy does not embarrass me again."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Privileges body's 'aura of secrecy'

From Mr Christopher Price

Sir, As one of that small band of individuals who has been grilled, unrepresented, alone and in private, in front of the House of Commons Committee of Privileges, I am pleased that the committee's addiction to secrecy is at last being questioned (report, October 20).

I appeared before the committee in 1978 after certain magazines had been prosecuted for mentioning the name of a Colonel Hugh Johnstone, who was to appear in the "ABC" official secrets trial as "Colonel B". I and three colleagues revealed the name in the Commons and we were accused of breaching the *sub judice* rule which is meant to protect court proceedings from parliamentary comment. My colleagues, by agreement, left our joint defence to me alone.

It was a frightening experience: the current practice under which the Privileges Committee takes evidence in secret breaches every principle of natural justice, especially in respect of the witnesses who come before it.

The only concrete result of the committee's sitting in private over our case was to protect from criticism the then Attorney General, Sam Silkin, who was trying to maintain an aura of secrecy, at the behest of the security services, in an official secrets trial in which the threadbare prosecution case he had authorised ultimately collapsed. In the end, many months later, the evidence I gave was published when a general election was upon us and public interest in the issue had evaporated.

The Committee of Privileges should behave like the other select committees of the Commons which take oral evidence in public and simultaneously place in the public domain the relevant written evidence that has been submitted to them. The fact that the Privileges Committee has so far failed to adopt normal House of Commons practice in its attitude to open government is no reason why it should continue to do so in future. Its Labour members are right to stay away until it changes its ways.

Yours etc,
CHRISTOPHER PRICE (MP for Lewisham West (Labour), 1974-83),
6 Montpelier Grove, NW5.
October 20.

Snouts in the trough

From Sir Sigmund Sternberg

Sir, Bernard Levin's perceptive article on growing corruption in public live ("Snouts in the trough", October 21) strengthens my belief in the need for a code of conduct for politicians.

Most professions have such a code, and it is quite ludicrous that political leaders have not. As a result, the British electorate is losing faith in politicians.

Voters are alienated from existing parties and there is a great danger that extremist organisations will benefit.

I would propose that an all-party commission should examine the adoption of a comprehensive code of ethics for anyone who seeks election to office.

Yours faithfully,
S. STERNBERG
(Member of Council),
Institute of Business Ethics,
12 Palace Street, SW1.
October 21.

From Mr Roger Dunkley

Sir, I hear on the news that the prime minister of South Korea has offered his resignation, following the collapse of a bridge, killing commuters.

This sounds like taking ministerial responsibility a tad too far. But surely the Conservative Government which, I believe, admires Korean energy and initiative, could learn a lesson.

Taking any responsibility for one's departmental inadequacies seems to be a thing of the past here.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER DUNKLEY,
10 Dralda House,
Keswick Road, Putney, SW15.
October 21.

From Mr Tony Hodges

Sir, Even MPs know that there is no such thing as a free lunch. Neil Hamilton's week-long stay at the Ritz in Paris as guest of Mr Al Fayed should surely have been on an "accommodation only" basis.

Yours sincerely,
TONY HODGES,
5 Cavendish Crescent North,
The Park,
Nottingham.
October 21.

Passing shots

From Mr Robin M. Peters

Sir, If the Commons Defence Committee is concerned at the number of soldiers failing the annual shooting test (report, October 19), then training in accordance with the current principles of civilian secondary education may help: rename the test as the GCSE (General Certificate of Shooting Excellence) and rearrange the grades in such a way that failure is not encompassed.

Yours faithfully,
R. M. PETERS,
15 Hawthorne Way, Wing,
Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.
October 20.

Life in the countryside under attack

From Mr Paul Tyler, MP for North Cornwall (Liberal Democrat)

Sir, Clive Aslet, Editor of *Country Life*, is quite right when he says that rural people "feel not only that their interests have been neglected, but that the way of life they have chosen is under attack" ("Fleecing the country voters", October 14).

However, one must question his optimism in believing that a Government so far removed from its former rural roots is capable of instituting the changes that he rightly identifies as crucial.

Take set-aside, one of his examples. Up and down the country there is now a growing consensus that this folly must end. Yet as recently as July 13 Gillian Shephard, then Agriculture Minister, was saying, "set-aside is here and we have to live with it".

Perhaps her successor has different ideas, but those who value the countryside will be sceptical. For it was Conservative ministers who ensured Britain became the set-aside capital of Europe, turning over an area the size of Lincolnshire to the madness of deliberate dereliction.

But Mr Aslet should not be downhearted. The policies he wants are already in place. Reform of the common agricultural policy designed around environmental and social goals; enhanced access to the countryside; tougher action against polluters; coordinated and sensitive development — the Liberal Democrats have long argued for all these.

If the Conservatives now wish to move onto our agenda, then we welcome their belated recognition of errors past.

But as far as "action to stamp the countryside as a Tory issue" is concerned, they have missed the boat. Fifteen years of neglecting rural Britain will not be forgotten overnight.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL TYLER (Liberal Democrat Rural Affairs Spokesman),
House of Commons.
October 17.

Need to control London's traffic

From Councillor Christine Shawcroft

Sir, The channelling of road traffic in the City to which Mrs Barbara Newman refers in her letter of October 7 will no doubt improve the environment for pedestrians and for the few residents of that area. However, I wonder whether the Government will also allow similar schemes in the inner London boroughs in order to bring about a real environmental improvement to London as a whole.

This seems unlikely. The Government has the power of veto over councils who wish to improve the environment in the way the City has — and uses it regularly.

Everybody in central London who witnessed the smog last July will recognise the need for substantial traffic reduction in London. Everybody, that is, except the Government. It is still building and planning to build more roads in London; to build more road bridges across the Thames; and to install 300 miles of Red Routes right into the centre of London.

What London needs is a change of emphasis away from the car. Funds currently planned for road building should be directed towards improving the existing public transport network. The City's scheme should be seen as a first-step traffic management initiative for London that others will be allowed to follow.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE SHAWCROFT
(Chair, Planning & Environmental Services Committee),
Tower Hamlets Council,
Mulberry Place,
5 Clove Crescent, E14.
October 14.

From the Controller, Highways & Traffic, Freight Transport Association

Sir, Contrary to the views expressed by Baroness Hamwee and Lord Clinton-Davis (letter, October 15), Londoners have nothing to fear from the Government's plans to relieve industry of the costly and quite unnecessary red tape created by the night-time and weekend lorry ban permit scheme.

The ban itself will remain — although there is little evidence that it provides any significant benefit to the capital's environment. There have been major reductions in London's lorry traffic in recent years, but the credit for this is due to the M25.

There is no evidence that many drivers not on essential business drive through rather than round London, with or without permits, and without the permit scheme precisely the same number of lorries will need access to London for essential business.

Permits relate only to lorry firms, not to individual journeys, and there is therefore no guarantee that a lorry with a permit is on *bona fide* essential business. Enforcement of the permit scheme is thus fundamentally flawed.

Suggestions that, in the absence of permits, enforcement would require the police to stop all lorries monitored, and "a more than 20-fold increase" in their assistance, are simply not true. They come from the Lorry Control Unit, not the police. Monitoring can be maintained with continued police assistance. The burden of proof will remain with companies and their drivers to show that they are on essential business.

The independent studies to which Baroness Hamwee and Lord Clinton-Davis refer, claiming that the scheme costs industry "only" £400,000 a year, are also flawed: they exclude all the costs of extra insurance, fleet changes and vehicle modifications which the permit scheme requires. The £3 million cited by Government is much nearer the mark.

But it is not only the cost to industry which justifies the Government's decision to abolish the permit scheme. It represents extremely poor value for London's council taxpayers — it has already cost them millions of pounds. Their money can and should be spent much more effectively in ensuring that the lorry ban is enforced properly and fairly.

Yours faithfully,
DON McINTYRE,
Controller, Highways & Traffic,
Freight Transport Association,
Hermes House,
St John's Road,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
October 17.

Justice Bill protest

From Miss Helen McDowell

Sir, I am about to qualify as a solicitor and, concerned about the repercussions of the Criminal Justice Bill, I attended a meeting about the Bill at Westminster Central Hall (report, October 20) on Wednesday night. The meeting ended and my friends and I left to go home.

Every side road was blocked by police in full riot gear and we were forced to walk a designated route, away from Parliament, until faced with lines of mounted police and vans. There was no escape to our left, and behind the hedges to our right masked faces and dogs appeared. Police vans then drew up behind the crowd, blocking us in.

Eventually the vans to our rear moved, allowing us to retreat, but we soon found our original route was now blocked with lines of police and vans. Some people had pushchairs and others needed to get to their cars. The police laughed and told us to walk over Lambeth Bridge.

We crossed the bridge, walked along the other side of the river and found Westminster Bridge blocked with more vans. I have no idea how people made it home. My friends and I were lucky. A policeman saw our suits and presumably "knew" we couldn't be part of the rabble. He allowed us through the lines and across Westminster Bridge.

However, a lot of people there did not look like me and my friends and their treatment that night was an excellent example of the increasing intolerance of difference and restrictions on our liberty that is so well encapsulated in this Bill.

Yours faithfully,
HELEN McDOWELL,
23 Sarre Road,
West Hampstead, NW2.
October 20.

Cycling in the dark

From Mr Kevin Carter

Sir, As the nights draw in I experience more often the fright of suddenly realising my car is dangerously close to an unilluminated and hitherto unseen cyclist.

Why is the cyclist nowadays permitted to ignore so many laws of the road, risking injury to himself and others, and lifelong trauma to the motorist who inadvertently clips him?

Every day I see inconsiderate drivers being admonished at the kerbside; not for many years have I seen a police officer stop a reckless cyclist.

Yours sincerely,
KEVIN CARTER,
5 Marble Hill Gardens,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
October 20.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

High tables

From Mr M. H. J. Radcliffe

Sir, Hugh Dickinson (letter, October 17) wonders why you can get better meals on airlines than on British Rail.

The simple answer is that customers cooped up for hours on aeroplanes demand more than those on the average shorter rail journey.

However, the real answer is that most industries exposed to world competition end up producing better solutions than those conditioned by domestic monopolies.

That is why national politicians and institutional leaders should spend more time overseas, seeing the best in the world, just like our international businessmen. We would then all be better off.

Yours faithfully,
MARK H. J. RADCLIFFE,
The Malt House,
Upton,
Nr Andover, Hampshire.
October 18.

When bells may be summoned

From the Reverend Thomas Glyn Watkin

Sir, The problems besetting the bellringers at the church of St John the Baptist, Tunstall, Kent (report and photograph, October 19), predate environmental protection Acts.

In the leading case of *Soltau v De Held* (1851), an injunction was granted to prevent the "unusually large" bells of a recently built Roman Catholic church in Clapham being rung to the annoyance of its neighbour — the church having been built in what had been the courtyard of his house and the belfry being no more than 20 yards from his bedroom.

In the early years of this century in Australia, a Melbourne incumbent was ordered not to ring his church bell before 9am on Sundays and public holidays, following complaints from a neighbouring householder.

What has never been decided, however, is whether the legal duty of a Church of England incumbent under the ecclesiastical law to toll a bell daily prior to saying morning and evening prayer in the parish church is a complete defence to any complaint that such ringing is a nuisance at law. Admittedly, the obligation does not justify full peals or ringing at unreasonable times, but it does raise the question of whether a local authority could in law require all bell-ringing at a parish church to cease.

It is to be hoped that an amicable settlement of the problem of the Tunstall bells can be reached and that the issue raised above remains one for consideration in the classroom rather than the courtroom.

Yours sincerely,
T. G. WATKIN
(Senior Lecturer in Law),
University of Wales Cardiff,
Cardiff Law School,
PO Box 427,
Law Building,
Museum Avenue, Cardiff.
October 19.

Drama on BBC TV

From the Controller of BBC-1

Sir, I was gratified to see Richard Morrison praise the quality of BBC Television drama over the past year ("Popularity is not everything", Weekend, October 15) but perplexed that he should berate BBC-1's scheduling and commissioning policy, on the basis of a shift of 30 minutes in the placing of one film — *Doggin' Around* — in the current Screen One series.

The arrival of an ambitious new drama serial — *Seaforth* — in the Sunday night schedule required a shift for one week only in the Screen One run. Furthermore, the film was transmitted in a time slot regularly occupied by BBC-2's Screen Two films for five years.

There is nothing timorous or populist about a drama policy on BBC-1 which schedules, in peak-time, drama series such as Roddy Doyle's *Family* and *Cardiac Arrest* and will offer future audiences on Sunday night Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, Dennis Potter's *Karaoke* and Edith Wharton's *The Buccaneers*. *Just William* will be arriving shortly in the Sunday early-evening slot, preceded by the launch of a new books programme.

I trust that your readers will conclude that the BBC is continuing to "lead the public" rather than "pandering to the drivel factor".

Yours faithfully,
ALAN YENTOB,
Controller, BBC-1,
British Broadcasting Corporation,
Television Centre, Wood Lane, W12.
October 21.

Twice as good

From Mr Peter Sieber

Sir, Politicians seem to be taking credit for the doubling of living standards and promise more to come (reports, October 15). Most of this progress has been and will be due to technology. Washing machines and microchips have done a lot more for our lives than all the economists and Chancellors of the Exchequer put together.

Yours faithfully,
PETER SIEBER,
2 North Grove,
Highgate, N6.
October 17.

Weekend Money letters, page 35

Pensioners' porridge

From Mrs Kay Lawson

Sir, With reference to the report in later editions of today's paper, "Jail plans special block for pensioners", might I suggest that if Mr Dovell, the Governor of Kingston prison, Portsmouth, truly wishes to give older prisoners "a similar life to that led by pensioners outside", then he should save our money by cutting down on all heating, lighting and food allowances, and make *sure* that these vulnerable souls are regularly visited by the younger, stronger and more anti-social prisoners.

Yours faithfully,
KAY LAWSON,
Pin High,
1 Daffodil Way, Springfield,
Chelmsford, Essex.
October 18.

هكذا في الأصل

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 21: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh disembarked from *HMY Britannia* in Helsinki this afternoon.

Her Majesty visited The President of the Republic of Finland at the Presidential Palace.

His Royal Highness opened the new transmitter network for Classic FM in Southern Finland at the Sibelius Academy.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, this evening from the State Visit to the Russian Federation and were received at the airport by the Earl of Airlie, KT (Lord Chamberlain) and Mr Roger Cato (Deputy Managing Director, Heathrow Airport).

The following were in attendance: the Rt Hon Douglas Hurd, MP (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) and Mrs Hurd, the Duchess of Grafton, the Rt Hon Sir Robert Fellowes, Major General Sir Simon Cooper, Sir Kenneth Scott, Mr Charles Anson, Surgeon Captain David Swain RN, Air Commodore the Hon Timothy Elworthy, Major James Patrick, Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis and Mr John Sawers.

October 21: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, today gave a luncheon at Buckingham Palace.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 21: The Prince of Wales this morning received members of the Grampian Regional Council.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 21: The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior, the Order of St John, this morning received Dr John Andrew on relinquishing the appointment of Provost of the American Society of the Order of St John.

October 21: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present this evening at the Anglo-Danish Society's Ball to mark the 70th Anniversary of the Society's Foundation at the Savoy, Strand, London WC2.

Mrs Howard Page and Major Nicholas Barne were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
October 21: The Duke of Kent, President, the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, this evening attended a Gala Concert, the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7.

Captain Alexander Tetley was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief, the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, was represented by General Sir John Wilsey, Colonel of the Regiment, at the Service of Thanksgiving for Colonel Chris Biles which was held at Sherborne Abbey, Dorset, this afternoon.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, the RUC Benevolent Fund, this afternoon attended a luncheon, Somerley House, Ringwood, Hampshire, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan).

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

Royal engagements

Today
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother will attend the decommissioning ceremony of *HMS Resolution* at the Clyde Submarine Base, Faslane, at 11.30.

British Maritime Charitable Foundation

Countess Mountbatten of Burma, Honorary President of the British Maritime Charitable Foundation, attended the annual thanksgiving service held yesterday at All Hallows by the Tower for the lives of "those who lost their lives at sea and have no known grave" and whose names are inscribed in the memorial book. The Rev Peter Delaney officiated.

Painter-Stainers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Painter-Stainers' Company for the ensuing year:
Master, Mr R.E. Biscoe-Taylor; Upper Warden, Mr B.E. Edwards; Renter Warden, the Rev G.L. Blacktop.

Dinners

Anglo-Danish Society
The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were the guests of honour at a gala dinner and ball held last night at the Savoy Hotel to mark the 70th anniversary of the Anglo-Danish Society. Sir Andrew Stark, chairman, presided. The Danish Ambassador and Mr David Davis, Minister of State for European Affairs, also spoke.

Royal Society of St George
The Lord Mayor of Westminster was a speaker at a dinner of the Royal Society of St George held last night at Grosvenor House to mark the Battle of Trafalgar. Sir Colin Cole, president, was in the chair. Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach proposed the toast to the "Immortal Memory" and Mr William Firth, vice-chairman, proposed the toast to "St George for England". Sir Simon Cassels and Mrs Mavis Linton, deputy chairman, also spoke.

Old Bedfordian's Club
Mr James Crowden, Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, presided at a dinner held last night at Pembroke College, Cambridge. Sir James Hennessy, Dr Philip Evans, Headmaster of Bedford School, and Mr Murray Fletcher president of the club, were the principal speakers.

Service dinners

HMS Victory
Admiral Sir Michael Layard, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command, presided and proposed the toast to the "Immortal Memory" at a Trafalgar Night dinner held onboard his flagship *HMS Victory* in Portsmouth last night. Among those present were:
The Right Rev Timothy Bavin, Sir Donald Gosling, Lieutenant-General Sir Robert and Lady Ross, Mr Bill Koch and Miss Kate Aitle.

HMS President
The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs attended the annual Trafalgar Night dinner of the London Division, Royal Naval Reserve held last night onboard *HMS President*. Commander M.D. MacFarlan, RNR, presided and Commodore P.C.B. Canter, RN, Commodore, Amphibious Forces, proposed the toast to the "Immortal Memory". Commander J. McK. Ludgate, RD, RNR, Commanding Officer, received the guests. Among those present were:
The Honorary President of the *HMS President* Retired Officers' Association, the Prime Wardens of the Fishmongers' and Shipwrights' Companies, the Master of the Coopers' Company and the Master of the Company of Master Mariners.

HMS Malabar
Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Abbott, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, was the guest of honour at the annual Royal Naval Officers' Association Trafalgar Day dinner held last night at The Cottage, Ireland Island, Bermuda. Commander Robin Bawtree, Commanding Officer, *HMS Malabar*, presided. Lord Waddington, QC, Governor of Bermuda, was present.

Royal Navy, Royal Marines and QARNNS, Naples
Admiral Leighton W. Smith, USN, was the guest of honour at the Trafalgar Night dinner held last night in the Allied Officers Club AFSOUTH by Officers of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines and Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service serving in Naples. Vice-Admiral M.A.C. Moore presided.

Anchorites
Admiral Sir Benjamin Bathurst, First Sea Lord and Chief of the Naval Staff, was the principal guest at a ladies night dinner of the Anchorites held last night at the Café Royal to mark their 75th anniversary. Commander O.D. Somerville-Jones presided. The Ambassador of Norway and representatives from the Norsk Anchorite Klubb, De Nederlandsche Anchorite Club and the Klub Morski who are celebrating their 50th anniversary were among the guests.

Vulcan Naval Reactor Test Establishment
Rear-Admiral Frederick Scourse, Director General Surface Ships, was the guest of honour and proposed the toast to the "Immortal Memory" at a Trafalgar day dinner held last night at the *Pentland Hotel, Thurso.*

JULIAN HERBERT

H.M.S. VICTORY

Admiral Sir Michael Layard, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command, yesterday laid this laurel wreath on the deck of Nelson's flagship, *HMS Victory*, at the spot where he fell 189 years ago at the Battle of Trafalgar

Memorial celebration

Lord Sharp of Grimsdyke
The Chinese Ambassador attended a celebration of the life of Lord Sharp of Grimsdyke held on Thursday at St John's Smith Square. The Hon Victoria Sharp, daughter, read *I think continually of those who were truly great* by Professor Sir Stephen Spender, the Hon Richard Sharp, son, read *Gone away* by Ira Blakeman Issertell, and Lord Young of Graffham, Chairman of Cable and Wireless, read *Psalm 15*. Mr Michael Odling, Mr Arthur Spiro and Mr Jonathan Solomon gave addresses.

The Brindisi Quartet, Ms Jacqueline Shave, violin, Mr Patrick Kiernan, violin, Mrs Katie Wilkinson Khoroshunin, viola, and Mr Jonathan Tunnel, cello, with Mr Anthony Pleeth, cello, played music by Schubert and Mozart. Among others present were:

Lady Sharp of Grimsdyke (widow), the Hon Mrs Richard Sharp (daughter-in-law), Mr Olivier Chappatte (son-in-law).

Lord and Lady Marshall of Goring, Lord Parkinson, Lord Peyton of Yeovil, Lord Harris of High Cross, Lord Pender, Lord Sterling of Plaistow, Lord Morris, Lord Ezra, Lord Haslam, Lord Derwent (also representing the Chairman of Hutchison Whampoa), Lord and Lady Wolfson, Lady Joseph, Lady Young of Graffham, Sir Michael Palliser (China-Britain Trade Group), Sir Geoffrey Pattie, MP, Mr Kenneth Baker, CH, MP, the Hon Dominic Lawson, Sir John Sparrow, Lady (Raymond) Brown, Sir Ronald and Lady Arculus, Sir Denys Henderson, Sir Frank Lampl, Sir Gordon and Lady Brunton, Sir Bryan Carsberg, Sir John and Lady Whitehead, Lady Lipworth, Sir Charles Powell, Sir Alan Donald, Sir Peter Walters, Sir Peter Cazalet, Sir John Page (vice-president, Harrow Community Trust), Sir Peter and Lady Carey, Sir David Berriman, Lady Alexander, Lady Youde, Sir Clifford and Lady Chetwode, Lady (David) Hardy, Sir David Ford.

Ambassador Diana Dougan, Professor A Diamond, Mrs J P Charkham, Mrs Michael Odling, Mrs June Drew, Mr Martin Trowbridge, Mr and Mrs Michael Green, Mr and Mrs John Harris, Mrs Lois Sieff, Dr and Mrs Brian Smith, Mrs J Solomon, Mr John C L Cox, Mr Ernest Potter, Mr John Bellak, Mr and Mrs Philippe Chappatte, Rabbi Albert Friedlander, Mr Richard Hartley, QC, Mrs J Gale, Mr H James, Mr Denis Crofton, Mr David West, Mr Peter Smith, Mr Nicholas Wolfers, Mr R F Winkler, Mr Kenneth Fleet, Mr Michael Dobson, Mr and Mrs Stuart Lipton, Mr Richard Giordano, Mr Harold Taylor, Mr Alan Wheatley, Mr and Mrs Nico Ladenis, Mr F W Edwards, Mrs M F West, Mr and Mrs George Cooper, Mr Arthur Seldon, Mr and Mrs Clarence de Wolfe, Mr Massimo Coen, Mr Ronald Preston, Mr and Mrs F Cook, Mr Keith Sykes, Mr Robin Robertson, Mr Peter Marshall, Mr Bob Freeman, Miss Catherine Barton-Smith, Mrs Angela Lovering-Moon.

Mr James Ross (chief executive, Cable and Wireless) and Mrs Ross with Mr Rod Olsen (executive director) and Mrs Olsen, Dr Janet Morgan and other past and present members of staff; Mr John A Craven (chairman, Morgan Grenfell Group) with Mr Anthony Richmond-Watson (deputy chairman) and Mr David Suratgar (group director) and Mrs Suratgar; Mr John Kemp-Welch (chairman, London Stock Exchange), Mr F W Bischoff (chairman, J Henry Schroder Wagg and Company) and Mrs Bischoff, Mr Henry Keswick (chairman, Matheson and Company), Mr David W Brewer (chairman, Sedgwick Insurance and Risk Management Consultants (China)) and Mrs Brewer, Mr Malcolm Bates (GEC), Mr Greg L Crew (Mercury Communications), Mr George McKendrick (International Telecom Users Group), Mr Andrew Mallace (International Digital Communications), Mr H Nose (NEC), Mr K Matoba (IDC), Mr S H Honeyman (chairman, Stanhope Properties) with Mr Roy M Dantzic; Mr Bruce Fireman (Communications Equity Associates), Mr Neil Sumpter and Mr Robin Carswell (Monsanto), Mr David Gordon (chief executive, ITN), Dr Norman Jones (Royal College of Physicians), Miss Phyllis Cunningham (Royal Marsden Hospital), Mr Keith Wenden (Royal Marsden Hospital Cancer Fund) with Mr Jeremy Ward; and Mr Peter Bennett (The Forty Eight Group).

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: Franz Liszt, composer, Raiding, Hungary, 1811; Sarah Bernhardt, actress, Paris, 1844; Ivan Bunin, poet and novelist, Voronezh, Russia, 1870.

DEATHS: Sir Cloudesley Shovell, admiral of the fleet, drowned off the Scilly Islands, 1707; Thomas Sheraton, cabinet maker, London, 1806; Paul Cézanne, painter, Aix-en-Provence, 1906; Bob Fitzsimmons, world middle and heavyweight boxing champion 1891-1905, Chicago, 1917; Edward Carson, 1st Baron Carson, lawyer, (the uncrowned king of Ulster), Minster, Kent, 1935; Pablo Casals, cellist, Puerto Rico, 1973; Arnold Toynbee, historian, York, 1975; Nadia Boulanger, conductor and music teacher, 1979.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Jean-Philippe Rameau, organist and composer, Dijon, 1683; Pierre Larousse, lexicographer, Yonne, France, 1837; George Saintsbury, critic and historian, Southampton, 1845; Douglas Jardine, Surrey and England cricket captain, Bombay, 1900; Diana Dors, actress, Swindon, Wiltshire, 1931.

DEATHS: Thomas Pride, Parliamentary soldier, Worcester House, Surrey, 1658; W.G. Grace, cricketer, London, 1915; John Boyd Dunlop, inventor of the pneumatic tyre, Dublin, 1921; Zane Grey, writer of Western novels, Altadena, California, 1939; Al Jolson, singer, San Francisco, 1950; Merle *Oberon, actress, Los Angeles, 1979.*

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H.K. Cassels and Miss R.M. Glasby
The engagement is announced between Hamish, son of Group Captain and Mrs R.K. Cassels, of Blewbury, Oxon, and Ruth, daughter of Mr and Mrs K.F. Glasby, of Swindon, Wiltshire.

Mr L.D. Dalzell-Piper and Miss J. Knaggs
The engagement is announced between Lance, son of Major and Mrs D.A. Dalzell-Piper, of Kintbury, Berkshire, and Janice, daughter of Mr and Mrs George Knaggs, of Rathmichael, Co Dublin.

Mr W.J. Eaton and Miss V.B.L. Conboy
The engagement is announced between Bill, only son of Mr Bill Eaton and Mrs Ann Bresnan, of Bristol, Avon, and Veronica, younger daughter of the late Mr John Conboy and Mrs Alma Conboy, of Llanwnog, Powys.

Mr S.F. Evans and Miss S.R. Dixon
The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Brigadier Michael Evans and the late Mrs Anne Evans, of Bettiscombe, Dorset, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Dixon, of Rothley, Leicestershire.

Mr B.D. Fitzgerald and Miss K.M. Bisset
The engagement is announced between Barry, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Fitzgerald, of Winchester, Hampshire, and Kathleen (Kate), daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Bisset, of Rush Green, Hertford.

Mr T.R.G.C. Halliwell and Miss C.E. Scott
The engagement is announced between Titus, son of Mr W.A.C. Halliwell, of Winchester, and Mrs L.M. Halliwell, of Godalming, and Caroline, daughter of Mr J.D. Scott, of Fulham, and Mrs S.P. Kent, of Petersfield.

Mr M.D. Hamwee and Miss N.J. Pyke
The engagement is announced between Mark David, elder son of Mr Alan Hamwee and Mrs Susan Murray Bett, of London, and Nicola Jean, elder daughter of Mr Mervyn Pyke and Mrs Jean Pyke, of Somerset.

Mr D.J. Ivell and Miss L.J. Parrett
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Leonard Ivell, of West Wickham, Kent, and Lisa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Alec Parrett, of Whitstable, Kent.

Mr B.A. Jones and Miss J. Elderkin
The engagement is announced between Bruce, son of Mr and Mrs Glyn Jones, of Sully, South Glamorgan, and Jessica, eldest daughter of Dr Edward Elderkin, of Windhoek, Namibia, and Mrs Sarah Elderkin, of Nairobi, Kenya.

Mr H.H.E. Kidd and Miss K.A. Froggatt
The engagement is announced between Hugh, son of Alan and Gwen Kidd, of Rockland St Mary, Norfolk, and Katherine, daughter of David and Alison Froggatt, of Bingley, Yorkshire.

Mr C.J.D. Lees and Miss S.E. Hayes
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of the late Colonel Colin Lees and of Mrs Colin Lees, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, and Susannah, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Geoffrey Hayes, of Taunton, Somerset.

Mr E.A.M. Mackenzie and Miss S.L. Watts
The engagement is announced between Angus, younger son of Prebendary and Mrs Mackenzie, of Hillingdon, Middlesex, and Samantha, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Watts, of Balcombe, Sussex.

Marriages

Mr A.G. Bowles and Professor S.B. Geissler
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 15, at Grace Episcopal Church, Madison, New Jersey, USA, of Mr Arthur Graeham Bowles, of Taunton, Somerset, son of the late Mr and Mrs Herbert Bowles, and Professor Suzanne Burr Geissler, of Florham Park, New Jersey, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Alfred Geissler.

Mr J. Holborow and Mrs V.C. Ferguson
The marriage took place yesterday at the Church of St Mary Magdalene, Richmond-upon-Thames, Surrey, between Mr Jonathan Holborow, of Richmond, and Mrs Vivien Ferguson, of Kingsdown, near Deal, Kent.

The Rev Dr G.S. Udall

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Geoff Udall will be held at St Martin's Church, Bryanston School, at 2.30pm on Saturday, December 10, 1994. It is hoped that a wide range of friends can gather to celebrate a life of unusual quality. Further information is available from The Headmaster's Secretary, Bryanston School, Blandford, Dorset, DT11 0PX.

Lecture

The Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Trust and Trinity College Cambridge
Mr John Grigg will deliver the 18th Nehru Memorial Lecture on 'Indo-British Mythology about the Approach to Independence' on Friday, November 11, 1994, at 6pm, in the Winstanley Lecture Hall, Trinity College, Cambridge. The Lecture is open to all.

Weekend birthdays

Today
Lord Birkett, 65; Colonel J.N. Blashford-Snell, explorer, 58; Mr W.P. Bowman, chairman, Covent Garden Market Authority, 62; Mr L.R. Carus, former Principal, Birmingham School of Music, 67; Mrs B.D. Craig, former Principal, Somerville College, Oxford, 79; Miss Catherine Deneuve, actress, 51; Professor Charlotte Erickson, American historian, 71; Colonel Sir Dennis Faulkner, 68; Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard, Gold Stick to The Queen, 78; Miss Joan Fontaine, actress, 77; Lady (Michael) Fox, former director, British Insitute of International and Comparative Law, 66; Mr Jeff Goldblum, actor, 42; Mr Mike Hendrick, cricketer, 46; Mr Michael Heron, chairman, Post Office, 60; Mr Mick Hill, athlete, 30; Miss Irene Hindmarsh, former Principal, St Aidan's College, Durham, 71; Sir Derek Jacobi, actor, 56; Mrs Doris Lessing, author, 75; Mr Christopher Lloyd, actor, 56; Sir Donald McIntyre, opera singer, 60; Mr Kelvin MacKenzie, former editor, *The Sun*, 48; Mr James Sharples, Chief Constable, Merseyside, 51; Mr Michael Stoute, racehorse trainer, 49; Vice-Admiral Sir FitzRoy Talbot, 85; Mr A.R. Thatcher, former Registrar General for England and Wales, 68; Admiral Sir Hugo White, 55; Admiral Sir David Williams, former governor, Gibraltar, 73; Professor Sir David Williams, QC, Vice-Chancellor, Cambridge University, 64; Professor John Wing, psychiatrist, 71.

Tomorrow
Sir Anthony Bamford, chairman, J.C. Bamford Group, 49; Professor G.W.W. Barker, archaeologist, 48; Mr Arthur Brittenden, journalist, 70; Mr Johnny Carson, American broadcaster, 69; Mr George Cohen, footballer, 55; Major Edwina Coven, former Chief Commoner, 73; Mr John Craven, chairman, Morgan Grenfell Group, 54; Lord Hunt of Tanworth, 75; Sir Archie Lamb, diplomat, 73; Professor Sir Frank Lawton, Professor of Operative Dental Surgery, 79; Mr Iverach McDonald, former associate editor, *The Times*, 86; Pele, footballer, 54; Lord Remnant, 64; Sir Ralph Riley, agriculturalist, 70; Mr G.J. Robinson, chief executive, Granada Group, 46; Mrs Anita Roddick, founder, Body Shop International, 52; Dr G.H.W. Rylands, CH, Shakespearian scholar and producer, 92; the Earl of Shannon, 70; Baroness Trumpington, 72; Baroness Young, 68.

Church services tomorrow

Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity
BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Mass for three voices (Byrd), In the beginning (Clucas), Duo Seraphim (Victoria), Rev N Vincent; 4 Choral E, Responses (Rose), Coll Reg (Wood), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton).
BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Euch; 11.15 Legal Service, Stanford in B flat, The King shall rejoice (Handel), Rev Dr R Bursell; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Clucas), Stanford in B flat; Thou wilt keep him (Sumsion), Canon J Simpson.
CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Mass for five voices/Miserere mei (Byrd); 3.15 E, Responses (Smith), Murrill in E, Evening hymn (Balfour Gardiner); 6.30 ES for UN, Rev D Grimwood.
CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Liebster Jesu wir sind hier (Bach), Mass for three voices (Byrd), Love bade me welcome (Vaughan Williams), Canon C Sims; 3 E.
CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 C, The Provost; 11.15 Euch, Canon B Thompson.
EL1
CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Choral M, John Ireland in F major, Rev J Sutton; 11.30 Choral Euch, The Hereford Service in B flat/O food of men wayfaring (Lloyd); 2 Sea Cadets; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Neary), Henry Purcell in G minor, The Bell Anthem (Purcell); 6.30 ES, Canon O Conway.
CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Morley), Ireland in C, Ecce sacerdos (Elgar), Rt Rev E Knapp-Fisher; 11 S Euch, Little Organ Mass (Haydn), O sacrum convivium (Archer), The Bishop; 3.30 E, Responses (Morley), Walmisley in D minor, Ascribe unto the Lord (Wesley).
COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Jackson in G, Adam lay y-bounden (Ord), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Lord Dubs; 3 German Lutherans; 3 Polish Lutherans; 5.30 E, Laudate nomen Domini (Tye), Responses (Byrd), Stanford in C, Achieved is the glorious work (Haydn).
DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8, 11.15 HC, Jackson in G, Canon R Coppin; 10 M, Stanford in A, The Call (Lloyd), Canon M Perry; 3.30 E, The second service (Byrd), Behold now praise the Lord (White), Fantasia in F minor (Mozart).
ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Darke in E, Jubilate in G (Stanford), Ave verum corpus (Mozart), The Dean; 3.45 E, Wood in E flat, O thou the central orb (Wood).
LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Haydn in B flat, Benedicite (Sumsion), Canon G Willett; 2.30 Royal Arch Masons; 4 Choral E, Responses (Smith), Rejoice in the Lord alway (Redford), The Precentor.
LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Communion Service (Rutter), Sacerdotes domini (Byrd), Canon W Jacob; 11.15 M, Responses (Shephard), Stanford in B flat, Erhalt uns durch dein Gute (Bach); 12.30 HC; 3.45 E, Responses (Shephard), O how glorious is the kingdom (Harwood), Canon S Jackson.
LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Benedicite, Omnia opera (Plainsong), O quam suavis (Byrd), Rev M Geldard; 3.30 E, Responses (Smith), First service (Tallis), Ave maria (Lassus).
LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch, Guest Missa Brevis, The Dean; 3 Korean Veterans Service, Dunhill in G, Canon H Thomas; 4 HC.
LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 H Euch, Rev J Redvers; 9 Parish Euch, 11 Special Service, Glorious is thy name (Mozart), The Dean; 12.15 Holy Euch; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Smith), Stanford in B flat, The Lord is my shepherd (Stanford); 6.30 E, Rev B Khoo.
SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Mozart in F, Be thee with bliss (Haydn), Canon J Stewart; 11.30 Healing service, V Rev H Dickinson; 3 E, Responses (Leighton), Second Service (Gibbons), In splendor bright (Haydn); 4.30 Clowns service.
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Choral Euch, Missa Sine nomine (Viadana), Sicut cervius (Palestrina), Adiuva nos (Crequillon), Rev M Kitchen; 3 E, Stainer in B flat, O thou the central orb (Wood), Rev R White.
WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Darke in E, O Christ O blessed Lord (Wagner), Rev M Walker; 11.30 M Stanford in B flat, Like as the hart (Howells); 3 E, Jackson in G, Sing joyfully (Byrd), Rev N Kent.
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Rawsthorne), Ireland in F, O thou the central orb (Wood), Canon A Harvey; 11.15 Abbey Euch, Missa O quam gloriosum (Vittoria), Ubi caritas (Duruflé), Here O my Lord (Whitlock), Rev P Ferguson; 3 E, Coll Reg (Howells), Te lucis ante germinum (Balfour Gardiner), Rev Dr S Cole-King; 6.30 One World Week Service, Canon C Semper.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 M; 10.30 SM, Missa Eterna Christi munera (Palestrina), Ecce sacerdos magnus (Victoria), Qui me dignatus est (Berkeley), Te Deum (Langlais); 10 MP, 3.30 V&B, Magnificat octavi toni (Suriano), Mihi autem nimis (Tallis), Ave maris stella (Titelouze).
WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Responses (Rose), Jubilate in B flat (Stanford), Ubi Caritas (Duruflé), The Bishop; 11.30 Euch, Missa O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Sicut cervus (Palestrina); 3.30 E, Emmanuel Service (Kelly), Te lucis ante terminum (Balfour Gardiner), Rev C Stewart; 7 V.
YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Stanford in G & B flat, Rt Hon Lord Coggan; 11.30 M, Britten in E & C; 4 E, Coll Reg (Howells), Lobet den Herrn (Bach), Canon T Grigg.
ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 11 Choral Euch, St Nicholas Mass (Haydn), Fantasia in F minor (Mozart), Rev Fr P Kinsey; 3.30 EP.
ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10 (Family), 6 LM; 11.30 SM, Fr G Lysaght, O quam gloriosam (Victoria), Laudate Dominum (Mozart), Achieved is the glorious work (Haydn).
ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8, 10, HC, Gloria in excelsis (S Preston); 11.30 MS (UN Service), Let all the world in every corner sing (Vaughan Williams), 8 ES, Rev S Mitchell.
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8, 11.30 HC, Missa O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Jesu the very thought of thee (Bairstow); 10.30 M, Vaughan Willimas in G, Stanford in C, Rev R Eames; 3.15 E, Jesus College Service (Mathias), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Ven G Cassidy.
ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Missa Bell Amfitrit altera (Lassus), The heavens are telling the glory of God (Haydn), Rev P Johnstone; 6 E&B, Moeran in D, Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace (Wesley), The Vicar.
ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 C; 11, Rev R Tice; 6.30, Rev Dr J Stott.
AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 9.45 Sunday School; 11 Worship, Rev James Schmidt.
THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11, Missa ad fugam (Palestrina), Exsultate Deo (Scarlatti), Ave Maria (Stravinksy).
CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Childrens Service; 11 M, Rev P Elvy, Stanford in C, O Lorde the maker of all thing (Joubert); 12.15 HC; 6 E, Rev P Elvy.
CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Dr P Green.
FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa Dolorum (Haydn), Ave Mundi Gloria (Langlais), O Sacrum Convivium (Vittoria).
HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 ASB HC; 11, Rev S Millar, 5, 7.30 Rev N Gumbel.
THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 M, Missa Trahe me post te (Victoria); O Maria quae rapis corda (Finetti); 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, Salve Regina (Lotti).
WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev P Hulme.
WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, Rev Dr R Tudor, 6.30, Rev Dilwyn Banner.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Harvest Festival, Rev R Englund; 7 Jazz V.
ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Responses (Byrd), My soul there is a country (Parry), Preb M Shrewsbury; 6.30 E, Responses/Short Service (Byrd), Almighty and everlasting God (Gibbons), Rev A Winter.
ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral Euch, Short Service (Byrd), Harwood in A flat, They that go down to the sea in ships (Sumsion), Canon J Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Ebdon), Humfrey in F minor, Lord let me know mine end (Green), Canon J Oates.
ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 M, We wait for thy loving kindness (McKie), Stanford in B flat, On thee each living soul awaits (Haydn), Ven B Lucas; 12.30 HC.
ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, Rev I MacLeod; 6.30 ES.
ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Missa octavi toni (Lassus), Justorum animae (Lassus), Salve regina (Heredia).
ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), In the beginning (Haydn), Rev A Meldrum; 6 Choral E, Litany to the Holy Spirit (Hurford), The people that walked in darkness (Handel).
ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Stanford in B flat, Rev J Yates.
ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 M, Responses (Aylewood), Jubilate in B flat (Walton), Thou wilt keep him (Wesley), Canon D Gray; 12.15 HC.
EL5
ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Gloria in excelsis (Weelkes); Fantaisie in E flat (Saint-Saens) Rev S Goodridge; 11.30 Visitors, Responses (Piccolo), Rev B Shunemann; 2.45 Chinese, Rev P Kao; 5 Choral E, Responses (Piccolo), Stanford in C, Save us O Lord Bairstow; 6.30 ES, Rev J Pridmore.
ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa Sanctorum meritis (Palestrina), Canon D Nicholson; 6 SE&B.
ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, The Rector, Missa Pater Ego (Lobo), Now heaven is fullest glory shone (Haydn).
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Walton), Jubilate Deo (Walton), The eyes of all wait upon thee (Harris), Rev H Ruschmeyer.
ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Missa aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina), Haec Dies (Byrd), Prelude & Fugue in F minor (Bach), Fr Childwick.
ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 Sm, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn), Sub tuum praesidium (Mozart), Fr N Cocking; 6 EP & B.
CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Smith), Stanford in A, Ave Maria (Bruckner), Canon J G Murphy.
CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Rev J Colling.
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Ireland in F, From the rising of the sun (Ouseley); 3.30 E, Give almes of thy good (Tye), Short Service (Gibbons), Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn).
GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Mass for 3 voices (Byrd), Hear o heavens (Humphrey), Fugue in B minor (Bach), Rev S Hobbs.
QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, O God thou art my God (Purcell), Stanford in C, The Chaplain; 12.30 HC.
THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, King of glory (Walford Davies), Stanford in C, Rev C Hill.
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Oculi omnium (Wood), Achieved is the glorious work (Haydn), Rev K Joyce; 12 HC.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, God so loved the world (Goss), They that go down to the sea in ships (Sumsion), The Chaplain.

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All those who are gathered here will see that the Lord saves without sword or spear; the battle is the Lord's, and he will put you all in our power.
1 Samuel 17:47 (REB)

BIRTHS

COLWYN-FOULKES - At The Portland Hospital on October 20th, to Nick and Jan, a beautiful daughter and sister for Julius.

DAVALLE - On October 21st, to Jane and Christopher, a son, George Henry, a brother for Emily.

GRAY - On 13th October 1994, to Katharine (Christie) and Andrew, a daughter, Lauren Louise Christie, a sister for Douglas.

GRIFFITH - On October 17th in Birmingham, to Ursula (née Oettker) and Michael, a daughter, Rachael Susannah.

HUMPHREYS - On October 18th 1994, to Sarah (née Hicks) and Toby, a son, Ned Jasper, a brother for Emily.

LEAN - On 19th October, to Petronella (née Price) and Martin, a son, Edward Christopher.

LIDDIARD - On October 11th, to Graham and Isobel, a daughter, Alexandra Jane, a sister for James.

MACKIE - On October 20th at the Wellington Hospital, to Wynnie and Bruce, a boy, Ryan James, 6lbs, a brother for Taylor Bree.

PRICE - On 18th October, to Fiona (née Shepley) and Sebastian, a daughter, Lucinda Jane. Granddaughter to John and Denise Shepley and to Christopher and the late Margaret Price.

SHASORE - On 9th October at Kingston Hospital, Surrey, to overjoyed Meena and Abbey, the most wonderful daughter, Zara Leah, a sister for Neal.

BIRTHS

SOOBIAH - On October 10th 1994 at Queen Mary's University Hospital, Roehampton, to Lisa (née Penrice) and Selvan, a beautiful daughter, Laura Isabella.

TERRY - On October 18th, to Elizabeth and Ian, a daughter, Georgina Elizabeth.

DEATHS

BAZALGETTE - In London on the 23rd September 1994 aged 87 years, Tom Norman MacGregor, younger son of the late Norman and Mary Leslie Bazalgette of Wimbledon and Edinburgh. Also the great-grandson of Sir Joseph Bazalgette, the Victorian engineer, who was the architect of London's modern drainage system. A funeral service was held at St Mary's Parish Church, Wimbledon on St Michael and All Angels Day, 29th September 1994. Burial has taken place in Edinburgh.

BLOOMER - Marjorie Bloomer aged 91, widow of the Right Reverend Tom Bloomer and of Ian Orr FRCS, died peacefully in Colchester on 20th October 1994.

CALDER - Ian William, died peacefully at home on 16th October, aged 63 years. Funeral to be held at Bournemouth Crematorium, 11.45 am Tuesday 25th October.

DEATHS

CRICHTON - Wing Commander Charles Crichton R.A.F., peacefully at home on October 19th 1994. Beloved husband of Isabel. Father of Eric, Chantal and Marc. Stepfather of Christopher, Richard, Susan and Natasha. Funeral Service Friday October 28th 2 pm at St Mary's Church, Winterborne Whitechurch, Blandford, Dorset. Family flowers only. Donations to Joseph Weld House, Dorchester, Dorset.

DOWNTON - On Tuesday 18th October, suddenly and peacefully in Shaftesbury, Miss Helen Downton, C.B.E., aged 85. A much-loved sister, aunt and godmother, and a friend to so many. Private cremation at Salisbury. Thanksgiving Service at St Peters, Shaftesbury, 3 pm Friday 28th October. No flowers, please, but donations, if desired, for Westminster Memorial Hospital, Shaftesbury, may be sent to C.E. Johnson, High Street, Shaftesbury.

HUTCHESON - Commander George R.N. (Retired) on 18th October 1994 quickly and peacefully at home. Funeral Service at Taunton Deane Crematorium on Tuesday 25th October at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Enquiries to: Shoobridge Funeral Services, Honiton, Devon tel: (01404) 41424.

JEHU - On 19th October, gracefully, in London, Joan Mary Rose, aged 81, widow of Brook Neale and of Ivor Jehu, C.I.E., much loved mother of Gordon, Michael, Reay and Maybe and sister of Beatrice, dear grandmother and adored auntie. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Friday 28th October at 3.15 pm.

DEATHS

LEEDHAM-GREEN - On 18th October 1994 in Hove peacefully in his sleep, Hugh Lascelles aged 86, loved husband of Isabel, younger son of the late Professor Charles Leedham-Green F.R.C.S. and Mrs Ethel Leedham-Green and brother of Joan and the late John and Garth. Please no mourning and no letters.

MARKOVA - Jitka Marie (aka Claudia Cordell), devoted mother of Natalie, loving partner of Roger, suddenly in St Mary's, Paddington, on October 18th. Farewells at West London Crematorium, Thursday October 27th 1pm. Flowers if you must, but charity donations to Save The Children and WWF (UK) preferred.

ROSS - On October 20th 1994, peacefully at The Depperhaugh, Hoxne, nr. Eye, Suffolk, Oriel Ross (Lady Poulett) aged 92 years. Cremation at St Faiths Crematorium, Norwich, on Thursday 27th October 1994 at 10.30 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the King George's Pension Fund for Actors and Actresses c/o Woolnoughs Funeral Service, The Chapels, Holton Road, Halesworth, Suffolk.

STEEGMULLER - Francis, beloved husband of Shirley, on October 20th at Naples. Funeral private.

STORRY - Guy, on October 21st 1994. Deeply missed by Margaret, Jill, Paul and Christine. Funeral 11.30 am on Thursday October 27th at St Andrews Church, Sonning-On-Thames. Family flowers only.

DEATHS

TURNER - Doreen. On 20th October 1994 in a hospice, Doreen aged 69 years and of Poynton. The dearly beloved wife of David, much loved mother of Simon. The funeral service will take place at Macclesfield Crematorium on Wednesday 26th October at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to East Cheshire Hospice. Enquiries to Brian Sharples & Son, Bredbury. tel: (061) 430-6231.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

HADLEY:SMITH - On 23rd October 1954 at Holy Trinity Church, Smethwick, Dr. Ivor Maurice Hadley to Dorothy Margaret Smith. Now at Plymouth, Devon.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

SCOTT-FOX - A Memorial Service celebrating the life of Judy Scott-Fox will be held on November 8th at St James's Church, Piccadilly, 11 am.

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO READERS
Our new telephone number for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements is
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DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

GERMANY German family (parents both doctors, 6 year old daughter, 3 year old son) would like to employ a friendly, child-loving, well-educated young lady, preferably of academic or business family background, as an au-pair girl for 6 months or longer to teach English to our children. Interviews in London in November. Cost of living incl. separate apartment free + DM 800.-/ month. For further information please contact: Dr David, Holdorfer Str. 1, 49415 Diepholz, Germany. Fax: 49 4441/5411.

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(ALL IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ABOVE COMPANIES
On 19 October 1994 the above named companies were placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse, No 1 London Bridge, London, SE1 9QL was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details, in writing, of any claim against the companies to the liquidator, at the above address by 22 November 1994 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The companies are able to pay all known creditors in full.
Anthony Victor Lomas
Date 19 October 1994

Murray Telecommunications (UK) Ltd
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
We, S L Conn of 17 St. Ann's Square, Manchester M2 7PW and W J Kelly of P O Box No 1, 3 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 2DB were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above-named Company under Rule 4. 106 on the 19th October 1994 by the Creditors.
S.L. CONN & W J KELLY
JOINT LIQUIDATORS

TO: ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
I, ABDUL GHAFAR who has resided for the past six months at 35 Central Park Road, London E6 and carried on the trade or calling during the aforesaid period of six months of Off Licence Proprietor DO HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that it is my intention to apply at the Licensing Sessions for the Licensing Division of SOUTH CENTRAL to be held at Camberwell Green Magistrates Court, D'Eynsford Road, Camberwell Green, London SW9 7UP on MONDAY the 7TH day of NOVEMBER 1994 at 10.30 a.m. in the forenoon for the grant to ME of a Justices' OFF Licence authorising ME to sell by retail at the premises situate at 67 Stockwell Road, London SW9 in the said Licensing Division intoxicating liquor of all descriptions for consumption OFF the premises.
ABDUL GHAFAR
GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS THIS 17TH DAY OF OCTOBER 1994

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest in the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
PUCKEY, JOSEPH RONALD, 45 CHURCHFIELD HOUSE, LUSHINGTON DRIVE, COBHAM, SURREY, DIED 11 OCTOBER 1993. PARTICULARS TO PIPER SMITH & BASHAM (Ref: P1153.MS. SM. PUCKEY) SOLICITORS, 31 WARWICK SQUARE LONDON SW1V 2AF BEFORE 31st DECEMBER 1994.
SCHRODER, MARGARET ELEANOR PHYLLIS of 78 MELTON COURT, OLD BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON SW7 3JH died on 7th JULY 1994 particulars to HAMLIN SLOWE, Solicitors of ROXBURGHE HOUSE, 273/287 REGENT STREET, LONDON W1A 4SQ (Ref: IOR) before 24TH DECEMBER 1994.

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OBITUARIES

BURT LANCASTER

Burt Lancaster, American leading man of the cinema, died on October 20 at his home in Los Angeles aged 80. He was born on November 2, 1913.

Lancaster in his Oscar-winning role as Elmer Gantry in 1960

A DURABLE star of American action cinema for many years, Burt Lancaster in later years revealed another side to himself. In a new incarnation he showed himself to be a distinguished actor capable of tackling far more demanding roles than the run-of-the-mill stereotypes that were his early screen fare. A big, wide-shouldered man who spent his early career as a circus acrobat, he was inevitably cast by Hollywood as the conventional tough-guy hero. Indeed, so granite-like was his early image that one producer called him "an alp with no chips to flake off". But, helped by having his own production company, he was able to secure more demanding parts which often revealed him as an actor of depth and sensitivity.

He was thus one of the few Hollywood stars to transfer successfully to the European "art" cinema, making films with Luchino Visconti and Bernardo Bertolucci. He once said: "Most people seem to think I'm the kind of guy who shaves with a blowtorch. Actually, I'm bookish and worrisome." The paradox helps to explain why he was able to make the effortless switch from gangsters, cowboys and pirates to the introspective heroes of *Birdman of Alcatraz* and *Atlantic City*.

Born Burton Stephen Lancaster, he won an athletic scholarship to New York University and then spent seven years as a circus and vaudeville performer. When injury halted his career as an acrobat he became a floorwalker and salesman in the Marshall Field department store in Chicago. He served in the American Fifth Army during the Second World War and, after he was demobilised, a chance meeting in a lift led to a part in a Broadway play, *A Sound of Hunting*, where he was spotted by the film producer, Hal B. Wallis, and given a Hollywood contract.

He was first seen in the cinema in 1946 in *The Killers*, a brilliantly executed version of the Hemingway story of that title, directed by Robert Siodmak. From there he made his way through other thrillers and melodramas, like *Brute Force* (1947), *Sorry Wrong Number* (1948) and *Criss Cross* (1949) before a swashbuckling adventure called *The Flame and Arrow* (1950), set in medieval Italy and featuring some spectacular acrobatics from Lancaster as its protagonist, put him on the way to stardom. He had another popular success, in similar vein, with *The Crimson Pirate* (1952), while in 1956 he was able to draw on his circus background for the Carol Reed film, *Trapeze*.

During the 1950s Lancaster played in a series of good Westerns: *Apache* (1954), giving a sympathetic study of an Indian; *Vera Cruz* (1954); *The Kentuckian* (1955) which he directed himself; *Gunfight at the OK Corral* (1957) in which he played Wyatt Earp; and *The Unforgiven* (1960), an interesting if somewhat muddled John Huston essay on the racial tensions of the Old West.

Adaptations of stage plays gave him the opportunity for more thoughtful playing. *Come Back Little Sheba* (1952) saw him as an ex-alcoholic (and won for its female lead, Shirley Booth, an Oscar), while in Tennessee Williams's *The Rose Tattoo* he made a determined attempt not to be upstaged by the volatile Anna Magnani, who won an Oscar for her performance. In a 1959 version of George Bernard Shaw's play *The Devil's Disciple* he, like most of the cast, suffered from an indifferent adaptation.

But he won an Oscar nomination for his portrayal of an army sergeant in *From Here to Eternity* (1953), the Fred Zinnemann directed film of James Jones's novel of social life and sexual entanglements in a Honolulu military establishment in the fateful hours leading up the the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor (the film also established Frank Sinatra as an acting force). An Oscar nomination might equally have gone to his riveting performance, much against type, as the vicious newspaper columnist in *Sweet Smell of Success* (1957), a compelling mix of corruption and decadence, done in a mode that suggested Orson Welles.

Several of these films were made by Lancaster's own company which he formed in 1948 with his agent, Harold Hecht; they were later joined by James Hill and known as Hecht-Hill-Lancaster. It was one of the first examples of an actor trying to break free from the Hollywood studio system in order to control his own work and the company became a notable independent force in the American cinema of the 1950s. It also made successful films without Lancaster, such as *Marty* (1955) and *Bachelor Party* (1957), both written by Paddy Chayevsky. *The Devil's Disciple* (1959) was its last production, Hecht-Hill-Lancaster winding up in debt soon afterwards.

In 1960 Lancaster won an Oscar with a performance of swaggering charm as the hellfire preacher, *Elmer Gantry*, and two years later he was voted best actor at the Venice Film Festival for a much more subdued part in *Birdman of Alcatraz*, based on the true story of a reprieved murderer who spent his 40 years in jail becoming an expert on birdlife. It was this film that brought Lancaster to the attention of Luchino Visconti, who was then trying to cast the Sicilian prince in his version of Giuseppe di Lampedusa's epic of the Risorgimento, *The Leopard*.

Third choice after the Russian actor Smoktunovsky (of Russian *Hamlet* fame) and Laurence Olivier both withdrew, Lancaster gave probably his most impressive film performance (though the reissued picture was heavily cut and badly dubbed for British and American audiences). Back in Hollywood, Lancaster made an excellent political thriller, *Seven Days in May* (1964), a strong Western, *The Professionals* (1966), and the huge commercial success *Airport* (1970).

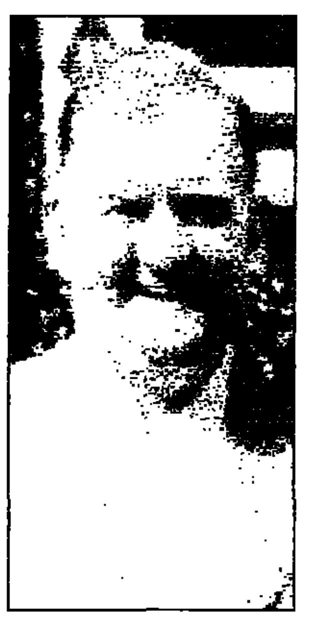
During the following decade Lancaster continued to prove his staying power and he passed his 60th year with no diminution of energy. Still commanding $750,000 a film, he was in the the terse, violent Western, *Lawman* (1970) and the equally violent but less creditable *Ulzana's Raid* (1972). Among his later thrillers was one he co-directed with Roland Kibbee, *The Midnight Man* (1974) and, in 1975, he played Moses in a television blockbuster of that name for Lord Grade. He added to his reputation on the Continent with skilful playing in *Conversation Piece* (1975), for Visconti, and in the somewhat heavy going Bertolucci saga *1900*.

A heart by-pass operation failed to disturb his career and in 1980 he gave a subtle and beautifully observed performance as the old gangster out of his time in Louis Malle's *Atlantic City*. Two years later he was in Britain, playing the oil tycoon-cum-astronomer in Bill Forsyth's gentle Scottish comedy, *Local Hero*. *Tough Guys* (1986) teamed Lancaster for the seventh time on the screen with his old friend, Kirk Douglas. It seemed like a genial and undemanding swansong for the veteran stars, cast as former train robbers who revert to their bad old ways. However Lancaster went on to appear in several more films most recently playing the ghost of a baseball player in a gentle fantasy, *Field of Dreams* in 1989.

Lancaster was a man of wide cultural interests. As a boy he had sung John McCormack songs on the streets of his New York neighbourhood and been rewarded with cookies by Irish and Italian mothers. In later life it was an ambition to direct an opera. This he never did, but he served on the board of the Los Angeles Opera. In 1935 he married a fellow circus performer, June Ernst, but the marriage broke up a year later. His second marriage, to Norma Anderson, was dissolved in 1969. In 1990 he married Susan Scherer and is survived by her and by the five children of his second marriage.

JOHNNY WALKER

Johnny Walker, train driver and trade unionist, died in East Kilbride on October 13 aged 73. He was born at Milhill, Edinburgh, on January 27, 1921.



SCOTTISH train driver and fireman; shop steward and full-time official for his union, Aslef; CND campaigner and *Morning Star* supporter; humanist and socialist — Johnny Walker's c.v. was of a type far removed from that of current Labour Party modernisers.

Indeed, true to type, he was capable of using impenetrable trade union jargon when speaking in public, though never in private. This occasionally got him into difficulty, as on one occasion when he tried to silence an unruly conference delegate by the time-honoured method of "naming" him. "Comrade," said Walker, "I'm going to name you. Comrade, I will name you if you don't sit down. Comrade, I'm naming you. Comrade what is your name?"

But he was never a man for the cliché; his style was always inventive. He once left a right-wing member of the Scottish Labour Party Executive (now a senior Shadow Cabinet member) spluttering helplessly. The man in question was producing a string of reasons, some highly spurious, as to why a CND demonstration should not be supported when Walker intervened. "Comrade," he exploded, "I'm not going to sit here and be dragged backwards through hedges that aren't there!"

It is, though, for his deeds rather than his words that Johnny Walker will be most remembered. At another meeting of Labour's Scottish Executive early in the 1984-85 miner's strike, a member of the Militant Tendency was berating those present, demanding to know if there was a single thing that they had done in support of the miners. "Well, I've stopped the trains carrying scab coal," responded the wee man quietly. "Will that do for a start?"

It was indeed only a start. As one of three trustees of the Scottish miner's hardship fund, he worked every hour he had to raise money, eventually securing over £1 million. He worked those hours to the end of the strike and beyond, to ensure that help was continued for those miners who he felt were being victimised by not being allowed to set foot on British Coal property again.

Walker came from a railway family and attended Musselburgh Grammar School but his family's financial difficulties obliged him to leave at 14 and to begin work at St Margaret's Depot, Meadowbank, as an engine cleaner.

He soon became active in the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) and in 1971 became a full-time Scottish Secretary for the union, a position he held for the next 15 years.

A working class gentleman with an unshakeable dignity, cherubic features, and an optimism matched only by his charm, Walker embodied a humanity that was recognised across barriers of language, age and nation.

Colleagues still speak of a Palestinian refugee camp in the south of Lebanon where he was followed around by a rapidly growing band of children, while the rest of his union delegation were ignored.

On that same visit he showed another side of his character when a car bomb exploded one hundred yards from the delegation's hotel. As his companions raised their heads from the floor, it was to see Walker sitting in his chair finishing his whisky, before setting off to make sure the hotel doorman was all right.

In 1986 he was chairman of the Scottish Labour Party, the same year he retired from full time union employment.

He did not stop working: his hours were consumed by activities in the pensioners' movement and local politics, albeit with a little more time for some of his many other interests such as football and opera (his enthusiasm for both had developed years before Luciano Pavarotti was so magically linked with the World Cup in Italy in 1990).

Johnny Walker is survived by his son George and by his wife Nessie.

PROFESSOR JOHN EDWARDS

John Edwards, Emeritus Professor of Law and founding Director of the Centre of Criminology at the University of Toronto, died on September 19 aged 76. He was born in Aberystwyth on May 16, 1918.

ALTHOUGH John Edwards spent the last 36 years of his life in Canada, where he established a notable reputation as an academic lawyer, he retained his links with Britain and was recognised as the authority on the Law Officers after the publication of his magisterial *Law Officers of the Crown* 30 years ago.

He was first and foremost a criminal lawyer and his first book, *Mens Rea in Statutory Offences*, published in 1955, is still regarded as authoritative. The publication of *Law Officers of the Crown* gave him a considerable authority, not only in England but throughout the Commonwealth, on all matters touching ministerial responsibility and government functions relating to the law.

John Llewelyn Jones Edwards graduated with an LLB from the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, in 1939 and then, after service in the Royal Artillery in West Africa and at the War Office, followed the path of many able young Welsh lawyers to Cambridge. After being called to the Bar at the Middle Temple, he began his academic career with a lectureship at University College London (where he obtained a Phd) and then Queen's University of Belfast, where he was promoted to Reader in 1953.

In 1958 he left for Canada to take up the Sir James Dunn Chair of Law at Dalhousie University, moving to the University of Toronto as Professor of Law in 1963. He remained there until his retirement and established the inter-disciplinary and inter-faculty Centre of Criminology, of which he was Director for 13 years until a serious heart attack forced him to relinquish the post. This was a pioneering development in Canada and his foundations have proved enduring.

He was much in demand to advise governments and Commonwealth Ministers of Justice and to chair commissions and inquiries on legal and criminal justice issues. His clarity of mind, absolute impartiality and integrity, and manifest fairness qualified him admirably for these roles.

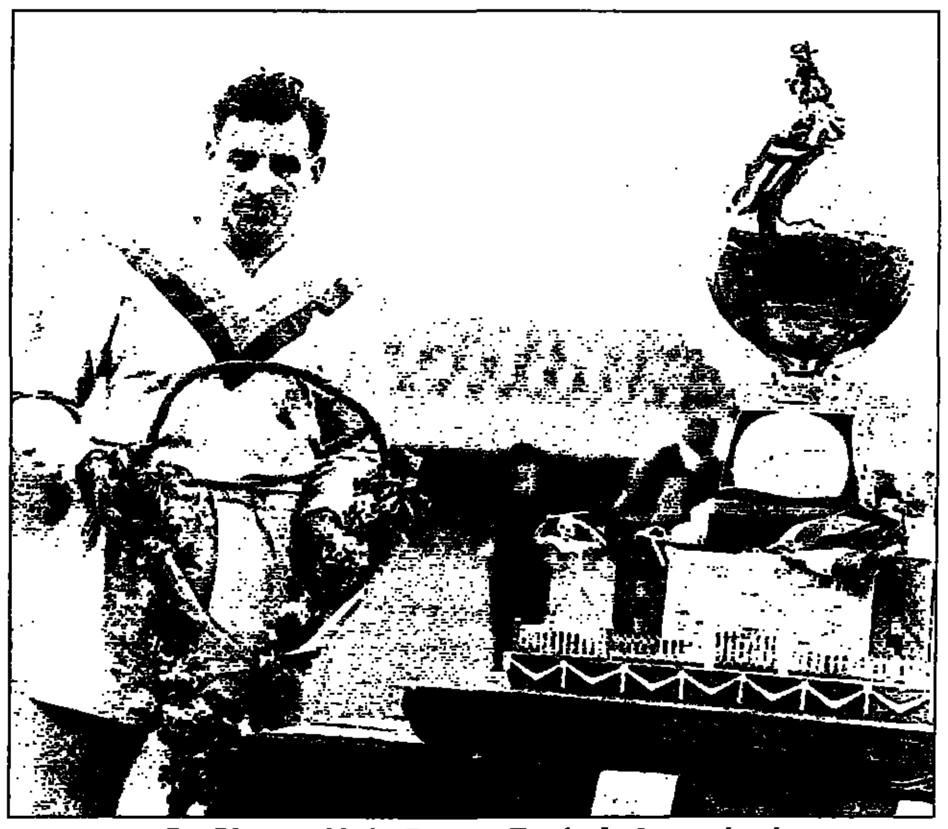
He travelled extensively, and held visiting professorships and fellowships in New Zealand, the United States, Wales, Cambridge and South Korea.

He obtained an LLD from Cambridge and was awarded honorary degrees by Wales, York (Canada) and Dalhousie. A *festschrift* was published in his honour in 1985.

John Edwards was a man in whom were combined personal and intellectual qualities of a very high order. He was measured and slow of speech, but his analysis would be penetrating and incisive and his judgments and conclusions impressive.

He was devoted to his family and is survived by his wife Monica, to whom he was married for 49 years, and by two sons and a daughter.

GUS RISMAN



Gus Risman with the Courtney Trophy for International Rugby League competition in Sydney in 1946

Gus Risman, rugby league footballer, died on October 17 aged 83. He was born in Cardiff on March 21, 1911.

GUS RISMAN was one of only four living players to be inducted to the Rugby League Hall of Fame at its inauguration in 1988. By the time his career, spanning 27 seasons, finally ended at Batley in 1954, he had accumulated the grand totals of 1,678 goals and 4,050 points in 873 matches. Only two other players, Jim Sullivan and Neil Fox, have scored more points. Despite this it was as a creator of tries rather than his own prowess as a try scorer and goal kicker that Risman was renowned. That and his exemplary demeanour on and off the field.

Augustus John Risman, always known as Gus, seemed destined for greatness on the rugby field from his childhood days in Cardiff, when he first began playing the game in the streets of Tiger Bay with bundles of magazines tied together with string. He attended the same school as Billy Boston, another revered figure of the game. In 1929, two months before his 18th birthday, he was signed by Salford for £152, a sum payable over the year.

After 17 years at Salford, where his skills earned him every honour in the game, he became the player-manager of the newly established Workington Town club in 1946. He captained the Workington side that beat Featherstone Rovers at Wembley in 1952 at the age of 41, a record for any player in a Challenge Cup final.

His death in a Cumbria nursing home occurred just prior to the start of an Ashes series — a sporting fixture in which Risman holds a unique record of never having lost in five series against Australia. He played for Great Britain in the home series in 1933 and 1937 and on tour in 1932, 1936 and 1946.

On that first postwar visit, Risman captained the Great Britain side at the age of 35. The party became known as the Indomitables after the aircraft carrier, the only ship available at the time, which took them to Australia.

He played 18 times for Wales and captained his native country at both codes of rugby, leading Wales in five wartime rugby union internationals. He leaves two sons, who both played rugby league at international level. Bev, his elder son, was a dual league and union international, and John played three times for the Wales rugby league team.

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ON THIS DAY

October 22 1938

A Scottish bank clerk, dismissed for breaking a company rule that no employee should marry if he were earning under £200 a year, later won damages of £1,000. He had claimed that a memorandum sent to the Minister of Labour after his case had been raised in the Commons, reflected on his professional capacity.

SLANDER BY A BANK
£1,000 AWARDED TO FORMER CLERK
DISMISSAL ON MARRIAGE

EDINBURGH, OCT. 21

After a four days' hearing a jury sitting under Lord Keith in the Court of Sessions, Edinburgh, to-day returned a verdict in favour of William Edward Notman, former bank clerk, of Ellerslea, Bishopton, Renfrewshire, in his action for slander against the Commercial Bank of Scotland. The jury, by a majority of 10 to two, found for the plaintiff and assessed damages at £1,000. The plaintiff's claim was for damages of £5,000.

Notman was employed at the Huntly branch of the bank at a salary of £150 a year, and, after the intimation of his forthcoming marriage, was dismissed. He claimed that the reason for his dismissal was that he acted contrary to the bank's policy concerning the marriage of employees earning less than £200 a year, and that statements in a memorandum addressed to the Minister of Labour after the subject of his dismissal had been raised in the House of Commons reflected upon his professional capacity, were without foundation in fact, and were made to conceal from the Minister and the public the real ground of his dismissal. The defendants denied slander and contended that the communication was made in response to a request by a Minister in relation to a matter of public interest and in the discharge by them of a public duty.

LORD KEITH, in his address to the jury, said he thought the sting of the statement made to the Minister lay in the words: "... the proximate but not the chief cause of his dismissal ..." The suggestion was that the circumstances were such as to justify the plaintiff's dismissal, and that these circumstances were not the breach of the marriage rule, but the fact that he had not responded to training in the normal manner and was not equipped to assume such responsibility as would normally fall upon him. If they thought the fair and reasonable meaning was what the plaintiff said they meant, then that settled that part of the issue in his favour.

The real issue was—were the statements made maliciously? That was where the real dispute arose. They would keep in view that the defendants had, if not a duty to report to the Minister of Labour, at least a right to explain their attitude to the Minister in respect of the matters that the Minister asked them about.

The question as his lordship saw it was this—in making that statement to the Minister was the statement an honest explanation of their attitude in the matter of the plaintiff's dismissal?

Unless the plaintiff established to their satisfaction on the evidence that it was no such honest explanation they could not find a verdict.

The Scottish Bankers' Association headquarters in Glasgow issued a statement last evening on the Notman case. "The association," it stated, "welcomes the decision arrived at to-day in the Notman case as a complete vindication of Mr Notman's character. The case has acted as a complete and telling exposure of the unjust restrictions laid by the bank upon the private lives of their employees. The association has been heartened by the decision to pursue its campaign against these restrictions with renewed vigour.

"Another injustice which was brought out effectively by the trial," continued the statement, "was the secret report system. The conflicting nature of the reports on Notman was such as to render them completely valueless. Notman knew nothing, and because of banking methods could know nothing of the nature of these reports."

THE TIMES TODAY

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22 1994

NEWS

Major pledges talks by Christmas

■ John Major accelerated the peace process in Northern Ireland by pledging that his Government would open talks with Sinn Fein before Christmas.

The Prime Minister flew to Belfast to make the historic announcement and to declare that he was making a "working assumption" that the IRA ceasefire is intended to be permanent .... Pages 1, 2

Pressure grows on Hamilton to resign

■ Pressure on Neil Hamilton, the junior Trade Minister, to resign from the Government over the cash-for-questions furore intensified after he became the subject of a formal complaint to a powerful Commons committee .... Pages 1, 5

Eurostar breaks down

A £24 million Channel Tunnel Eurostar train broke down for the second day running, with the bosses of British Rail and Eurotunnel on board .... Page 1

Burt Lancaster dies

Burt Lancaster, the veteran Hollywood actor, died of a heart attack in Los Angeles .... Page 1

Thatcher's challenge

Baroness Thatcher defended the rule of law and liberty in Hong Kong and challenged a central Peking dogma that democracy and human rights are not suitable for Asia .... Page 18

Gangland killing

A killer sat at a corner café then shot two men dead in a possible gangland execution .... Page 3

Pay deal rejected

Workers at Jaguar threw out a wage deal that would have kept them among the best-paid manual staff in the motor industry Page 9

Computer win

Two brothers who founded a computer games company have won a multi-million pound court battle with Nintendo .... Page 11

Work scheme

Britain's first national workfare-style scheme will be unveiled by Michael Portillo .... Page 10

Porter warning

Dame Shirley Porter was told she was in danger of breaking the law by Westminster council's officers when she asked if she could sell houses to Tory voters .... Page 8

Network crushed

The Bosnian Serb authorities say they have crushed an illegal network in the army plotting to undermine the state .... Page 16

Information exchange

Malcolm Rifkind emphasised the importance of the exchange of information on terrorism between Britain and Israeli .... Page 13

German cannabis laws up in smoke

■ Germany's tough anti-cannabis laws seem to be disappearing in a cloud of smoke. The Appeals Court in the northern port of Lubeck has ruled that locals can possess, and sell, up to 6.6 lbs of hashish without fear of punishment .... Page 14

Menno Hoencamp, a repair specialist, working on the gears of an 18th century mantle clock in London in preparation for the end of summertime when the clocks turn back from 2 am to 1 am early tomorrow

OPINION

The Semtex test: John Major's speech answered many questions asked about the Anglo-Irish peace process since the Downing Street declaration .... Page 21

Economic coups: Mr Yeltsin's hasty and disturbingly autocratic response to last week's rouble crisis has made a tense situation more difficult .... Page 21

Aunt sees the bill: "Greer. Greer. Explain to me how your master can run up a hotel bill of £4,221 for a week." .... Page 21

PAPERS

The closing of the borders between Israel and the occupied territories is justified to give passions a chance to cool
— *The New York Times*

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: Sometimes it will be a £100 lunch or evening at the opera. Sometimes it will be the works: a free trip to Paris ... Of all the grey areas of a profession, none is greyer than this .... Page 20

David Selbourne: The average citizen looks on with increasing dismay as more and more far-fetched claims to formal "rights" are made on his or her behalf .... Page 20

OBITUARIES

Burt Lancaster, actor; **Johnny Walker**, train driver and trade unionist; **Gus Risman**, rugby league footballer; **Professor John Edwards**, criminologist .... Page 23

LETTERS

Sleaze in politics .... Page 21

BUSINESS

Economy: The economic recovery slowed down in the third quarter, with growth faltering because of a deceleration in the output of industry. GDP grew by 0.7 per cent in the three months to September, a year on year growth rate of 3.6 per cent, according to preliminary figures from the Central Statistical Office .... Page 25

Canary Wharf: London's Canary Wharf complex is half-occupied; its chairman is considering adding more space and a stock market flotation .... Page 25

Insurance: Orion Insurance and its subsidiary London and Overseas Insurance have gone into liquidation with gross liabilities estimated at $1.5 billion .... Page 25

Football: Manchester United's defence faces another stern test when it confronts the most prolific partnership in the Premiership, Shearer and Sutton, of Blackburn .... Page 47

Rugby league: For all the calamitous predictions about the first international against Australia, Great Britain's best chance is the element of surprise .... Page 45

Rugby union: The South Africans open their tour of Wales in Cardiff; in England the top two clubs, Bath and Leicester, oppose each other in the Courage Clubs Championship .... Page 43

Tennis: Pete Sampras said the grand slam was unlikely to be achieved again in the men's game .... Page 48

vision

Ellen arrives: After Grace and Murphy, meet *Ellen*, the latest sit-com from the United States .... Page 3

Last Word: Germaine Greer and friends present a discussion programme, made up entirely of women .... Page 5

WEEKEND

Science bears fruit: Drew Smith on how genetic engineers are changing the food you eat .... Pages 1, 3

Chapter and verse: Marcel Berlins on the new P. D. James whodunnit plus the Oxford Fine Press Book Fair .... Pages 15, 18

Niche to see you: As the Birmingham Motor Show opens, Kevin Easton assesses the new Ford Scorpio and Lucy Pawson sees how the Vauxhall Tigra gots its spots .... Pages 21, 22

Cupid's arrow: Bali high-life on the beach, and a touch of true love, plus a two-for-one travel offer of African adventure .... Page 24, 29

WEEKEND ARTS

Karajan's finest: Four of the finest recordings made by *Herbert von Karajan* are offered at prices that have been reduced specially for Times readers .... Page 17

Week in the Arts: "Tyre man" and sculptor David Mach has struck again. His "Parthenon" made of 8,000 tyres and 145 shipping containers is now starting to rise in Leith Docks, Edinburgh .... Page 5

Shakespeare's sleaze: "The play is about the sleaze within all that Establishment pomp," writes Benedict Nightingale about *Measure for Measure*, now being staged in a bold new production by the Royal Shakespeare Company .... Page 5

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,680

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a fine leather credit card wallet, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....

ACROSS

1 Fish river when it's in flood, mostly (5)
4 His worst work is the easiest to pick (9)
9 Copy original article to keep a record (9)
10 House used as international meeting-place (5)
11 Court action making offence clear? Just the reverse (6)
12 How to get publicity for moderate policy (3,5)
14 Stolen drug hidden in churches — what a mix-up! (10)
16 Save black horse (4)
19 Are you the person elected, so to speak, for this seat? (4)
20 Scientist commemorated by degrees (10)
22 Remove from girl's dwelling (8)
23 Call father back, or a much older ancestor (6)
26 Brilliant sixes by England's tail-ender (5)
27 Not responsive, in a way — call back later (9)
28 Irrational about force caught off guard (9)
29 Try to get bass, perhaps, to sing (5)

DOWN

1 Patient supporter for member a seat may need (9)
2 Continue increasing rent in Northern city (5)
3 Almost wilt in difficult period of decline (8)
4 Idle head (4)
5 Help for shopper from unusually direct character (6,4)
6 Italian food in Greek island unfinished (6)
7 Throw light on curious raid — furious about it (9)
8 Book whose author keeps hidden (5)
13 Sing a carol arranged for this instrument (3,7)
15 Paper appears to claim it gets results quicker (4-5)
17 Maltreatment of albino cat is concerning Flora (9)
18 Positive result of exposing crack marksman (8)
21 British arrangement that divides Scots and English (6)
22 Pools entries making one a rich man (5)
24 Rule maintained by family of married emperor (5)
25 Feed one in residence (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,674

REDECORATE SPUD
A I O A H Y I
FISHMONGER KRIS
T C P G S B O H
TAKEITFROMME
F W N I I A A
APERIODIC LINER
L I O A K L I T
LOGAN RUSTICATE
I H W W A C N
NOTHAVINGANY
G L Y N R T B F
OGEN DILAPIDATE
U S A Z N I U
TASK INTERESTED

Solution to Puzzle No 19,679

VOLCANO LOBELIA
A O L V A A I B
NERVE EXCUSABLE
D E X R K I E A
AFLOAT PLECTRUM
L E N L U I
ILIAD OBSERVANT
S E C T E R
MOONRAKER AMBLE
N K E S A A
SKETCHER COGNAC
O R O E M N D H
BIOGRAPHY ISSUE
E U F E T N A R
RESCUER HIGHWAY

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *J A Lindsay, Old Coulsdon, Surrey; J M Wolstenhulme, Canterbury, Kent; G A Wren, Bath; G J Clements, Clifton, Bristol; A Bird, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.*

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Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 7.36 am — Sun sets: 5.53 pm
Moon sets 10.32 am — Moon rises 7.24 pm

Last quarter October 27

London 5.53 pm to 6.38 am
Bristol 6.03 pm to 6.47 am
Edinburgh 5.56 pm to 7.0 am
Manchester 5.58 pm to 6.50 am
Penzance 6.18 pm to 6.57 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 6.38 am — Sun sets: 4.51 pm
Moon sets 10.26 am — Moon rises 7.07 pm

Last quarter Octber 27

London 4.51 pm to 6.40 am
Bristol 5.01 pm to 6.49 am
Edinburgh 4.54 pm to 7.02 am
Manchester 4.55 pm to 6.52 am
Penzance 5.16 pm to 6.58 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.29	6.9	2.41	6.8
Aberdeen	2.30	4.2	2.45	4.1
Avonmouth	9.25	12.9	8.43	12.7
Belfast	12.00	3.3	12.17	3.5
Cardiff	*8.09*	*11.90*	*8.27*	*11.69*
Devonport	6.53	5.3	7.10	5.2
Dover	12.14	6.6	12.25	6.5
Falmouth	6.23	5.1	6.40	5.0
Glasgow	2.10	4.7	2.19	4.8
Harwich	12.56	3.9	1.06	3.9
Holyhead	11.32	5.4	11.50	5.2
Hull	7.32	7.27	7.46	7.14
Ilfracombe	7.07	8.93	7.25	8.75
King's Lynn	7.35	6.6	7.32	6.5
Leith	3.41	5.3	3.57	5.4
Liverpool	12.10	9.0	12.28	8.9
Lowestoft	10.39	2.5	10.53	2.6
Margate	1.07	4.7	1.17	4.6
Milford Haven	7.23	6.7	7.40	6.5
Newquay	6.15	6.7	6.33	6.6
Oban	6.43	4.0	7.06	3.9
Penzance	5.52	5.4	6.10	5.3
Portland	7.44	2.1	8.03	1.9
Portsmouth	12.19	4.6	12.35	4.6
Shoreham	12.21	6.0	12.29	6.0
Southampton	11.59	4.5	-	-
Swansea	7.31	9.2	7.49	9.1
Tees	4.45	5.1	5.03	5.1
W'ton-on-Nze	12.50	4.0	1.03	4.0

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Anglesey, 17C (63F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 9C (48F); highest rainfall: East Malling, Kent, 1.1in; highest sunshine: Jersey, 8.5hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** northern and eastern England will have rain, persistent over some southeastern parts. Wales and western England will have sunny intervals and showers, some heavy and possibly thundery.

Northern Ireland is expected to have sunny intervals and showers, some heavy. Southern Scotland will have rain at first followed by brighter showery weather. Northern Scotland will have wet weather with sunny spells, and the northern isles will stay cloudy with rain at times.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands:** cloudy, rain, persistent in the east, turning showery in the west. Wind southerly or southeasterly, moderate. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **E England, Lake District, Central N England, NE England:** cloudy with rain, then brighter with showers, some heavy. Wind mainly southeasterly, moderate. Max 16C (61F).

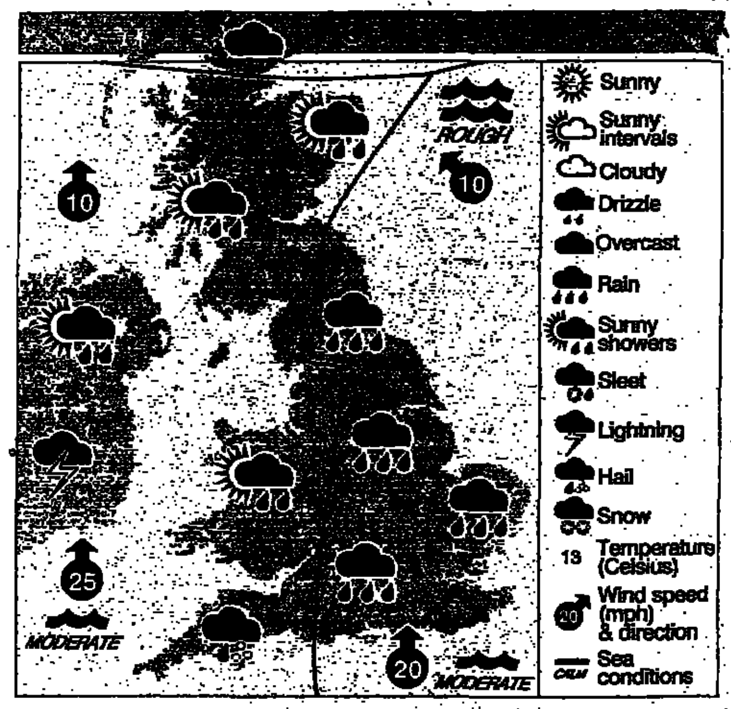
☐ **W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, Wales, NW England, Isle of Man, N Ireland:** early rain, soon brighter with showers, locally heavy, perhaps thunder. Wind, mainly southerly, moderate. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **Borders, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll:** early rain, then sunny intervals and showers, some heavy. Wind mainly southeasterly, light or moderate. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland:** cloudy, rain at times, becoming brighter. Wind southeasterly, light or moderate. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy, spells of rain or drizzle. Wind southeasterly, moderate or fresh. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Outlook:** unsettled, rain. Cooler.



AROUND BRITAIN

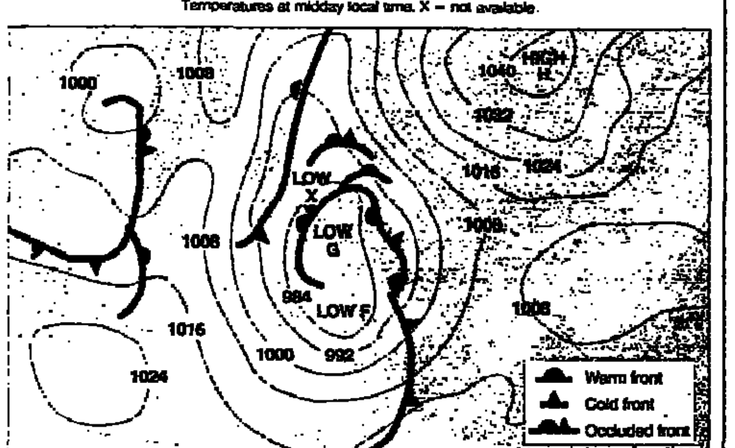
24 hrs to 6 pm: t=thunder; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; du=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.01	11	52	r	Manchester	-	0.09	14	57	r
Anglesey	4.9	-	17	63	s	Margate	1.1	0.39	13	55	du
Aspatria	-	0.09	14	57	du	Minehead	5.9	-	17	63	s
Aviemore	-	0.06	13	55	r	Morecambe	-	0.03	15	59	r
Belfast	7.3	0.01	15	59	s	Newcastle	-	0.63	12	54	r
Birmingham	0.1	0.22	13	55	r	Newquay	2.5	0.23	15	59	sh
Bognor R	3.7	0.03	17	63	b	Norwich	0.2	0.04	12	54	d
Bournem'th	7.3	0.17	17	63	s	Nottingham	-	0.10	12	54	r
Bristol	6.1	-	17	63	b	Oxford	2.7	0.09	15	59	s
Buxton	-	0.30	11	52	r	Penzance	3.0	0.18	15	59	sh
Cardiff	6.3	-	16	61	sh	Plymouth	3.4	0.02	16	61	b
Clacton	1.2	0.31	13	55	c	Poole	6.6	-	16	61	s
Colwyn Bay	1.0	-	15	59	c	Prestatyn	X	0.05	14	57	c
Cromer	0.1	0.02	12	54	c	Ross-o-wye	5.0	0.09	17	63	s
Doncaster	-	0.24	13	55	r	Ryde	X				
Eastbourne	-	0.41	14	57	r	Salcombe	4.4	0.01	16	61	b
Edinburgh	-	0.22	13	55	r	Sandown	5.4	0.03	16	61	s
Eskdalemuir	-	0.42	12	54	r	Sauntn Snd	5.5	0.02	17	63	s
Exmouth	4.7	0.03	15	59	b	Scarboro'	-	0.36	12	54	c
Folkestone	-	0.41	13	55	c	Scilly Isles	3.7	0.07	15	59	sh
Glasgow	-	0.26	12	54	r	Shanklin	5.0	-	17	63	s
Guernsey	3.1	0.03	16	61	c	Shrewsbury	1.0	0.11	14	57	du
Hastings	-	0.61	13	55	c	Skegness	-	0.21	12	54	r
Herne Bay	1.2	0.31	14	57	c	Southend	2.4	0.37	15	59	du
Hove	1.2	0.23	15	59	c	Southport	0.8	0.23	14	57	r
Hunstanton	0.1	0.13	13	55	r	Southsea	5.0	0.04	16	61	s
Isle of Man	4.1	0.02	14	57	b	Stornoway	-	0.17	11	52	r
Jersey	8.5	-	17	63	s	Swanage	6.5	-	16	61	s
Kinloss	-	-	13	55	sh	Teignmouth	3.3	0.05	16	61	sh
Lerwick	-	-	9	48	du	Tiree	X				
Leuchars	-	0.45	12	54	r	Torquay	6.9	-	16	61	b
Littlehmptn	2.6	0.07	16	61	r	Tynemouth	-	0.43	12	54	r
Liverpool	X					Ventnor	5.5	0.04	19	66	s
London	-	0.15	15	59	r	West-s-mare	X				
Lowestoft	0.6	0.05	12	54	b	Weymouth	7.6	-	16	61	s

ABROAD

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	17	63	r	Corfu	22	72	r	Majorca	20	68	f	Rome	24	75	s
Akrotiri	28	82	s	Dublin	13	55	c	Malaga	21	70	s	Salzburg	20	68	s
Alex'dria	30	86	s	Dubrovnik	21	70	f	Malta	22	72	f	S F'risco	13	55	s
Algiers	20	68	f	Faro	21	70	s	Melb'rne	16	61	f	Santiago	19	66	s
Amst'dm	11	52	c	Florence	19	66	s	Mexico C	19	66	s	S Paulo	21	70	c
Athens	20	68	r	Frankfurt	12	54	s	Miami	28	82	f	Seoul	8	46	r
Bahrain	31	88	s	Funchal	23	73	f	Milan	15	59	c	Sing'por	32	90	f
Bangkok	29	84	f	Geneva	16	61	f	Montreal	15	59	c	St'kholm	8	46	f
Barcelona	20	68	s	Gibraltar	21	70	s	Moscow	-1	30	f	Strasb'rg	11	52	s
Beirut	27	81	s	Helsinki	7	45	s	Munich	15	59	s	Sydney	14	57	r
Belgrade	11	52	f	Hong K	22	72	s	Nairobi	25	77	f	Tangier	20	68	f
Berlin	11	52	s	Innsbrck	19	66	s	Naples	21	70	f	Tel Aviv	31	88	s
Bermuda	21	70	s	Istanbul	17	63	r	N Delhi	29	84	s	Tenerife	23	73	f
Biarritz	19	66	f	Jeddah	37	99	s	N York	17	63	r	Tokyo	13	55	r
Borde'x	18	64	f	Jo'burg	27	81	f	Nice	15	59	r	Toronto	15	59	r
Brussels	12	54	r	Karachi	38	100	s	Oslo	4	39	c	Tunis	19	66	c
Budapest	13	55	s	L Palmas	24	75	f	Paris	15	59	f	Valencia	22	72	s
B Aires	21	70	s	Le Touqt	15	59	f	Peking	21	70	s	Vanc'ver	11	52	c
Cairo	31	88	s	Lisbon	20	68	c	Perth	31	88	s	Venice	16	61	s
Cape Tn	18	64	f	Locarno	13	55	f	Prague	13	55	s	Vienna	9	48	c
Chicago	16	61	c	L Angels	22	72	s	Reykjavik	6	43	d	Warsaw	7	45	s
Ch'church	11	52	f	Luxembg	11	52	f	Rhodes	22	72	f	Wash'ton	21	70	f
Cologne	13	55	s	Luxor	33	91	s	Rio de J	25	77	f	Wel'ngton	14	57	f
C'phagn	7	45	s	Madrid	16	61	f	Riyadh	34	93	f	Zurich	13	55	s

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available.



Changes to chart from noon: low F will move northeast; low G will move northeast and fill; low X will lose its identity; high H will drift east

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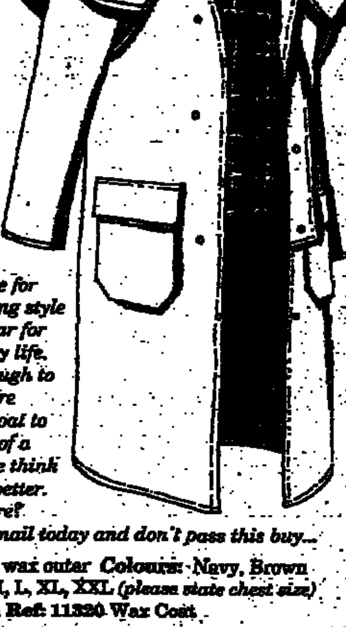

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Partners in power at Nuclear Electric

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WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — SATURDAY OCTOBER 22 1994

Dollar and American bonds under strong pressure

Bentsen: damaging words

By Our Economics Correspondent

A STRONG statement in support of the dollar by the Clinton Administration, and widespread, though unsubstantiated, rumours of central bank buying, helped to lift the US currency off its overnight lows against the yen and the mark.

In late European trading, the dollar was quoted at DM1.4990, compared with its two-year low overnight of DM1.4883, and at Y97.32, from Y96.55, its lowest since the Second World War. The Bank of Japan was estimated to have bought $1 billion overnight to support the dollar, but rumours of other central banks intervening during European trading were not confirmed.

The dollar's woes and a slump in the *Treasury bond market, which boosted long-*dated yields up to 8 per cent, sent shock waves throughout European markets, which were also upset by news of higher than expected German M3 money supply growth.

In London, the FT-SE 100 index plunged by nearly 50 points before recovering some ground to close down 30.4, at 3,032.8.

Stocks and bonds closed lower throughout Europe, although there was some recovery as Wall Street and the dollar stabilised. The rot was stopped when Larry Summers, the United States Treasury under-secretary, said that America was prepared to intervene when appropriate. *This remark, however, only* partially undid the damage done on Thursday when Lloyd Bentsen, the US Treasury Secretary, said that America had no plans to *intervene and that the dollar's level would be* dictated by market forces.

A measure of the panicky mood emanating from Wall Street and rippling across other financial markets was the fact that Mr Summers yesterday faced questions about parallels with the stock market crash of 1987. He said that the US administration was always concerned with the stability of the markets but that he was "not getting into the spooky stuff". He said: "There are a lot of differences between ... now and at any particular point in history."

The US markets are displaying the damaging *chain reaction that has characterised* trading for most of this year. US bonds have continued to fall on fears that the US Federal Reserve is not doing enough to combat *inflation and this, in turn, has hit demand for* the dollar. A weakening dollar then feeds back into weaker Treasury bonds as foreign investors become afraid of currency losses on their bond holdings.

Sterling gained against the dollar, which closed at $1.6271 against the pound, compared with $1.6192 on Thursday. It also edged higher against the mark, up to DM2.4345, from DM2.4317. *Sterling's trade-weighted index* closed at 80.4, from 80.2.

Among major stock markets in Europe, the DAX index in Frankfurt closed more than 2 per cent lower. In Paris, the CAC 40 index closed *1.35 per cent lower, having recouped half of its* earlier losses. In late European trading, the yield on Treasury long bonds had slipped back from 8.02 per cent to 7.99 per cent.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3032.8	(-30.4)
Yield	4.16%	
FT-SE A All share	1512.29	(-13.29)
Nikkei	19899.08	(-92.82)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3889.28	(-21.87)*
S&P Composite	464.92	(-1.93)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	4¾%*	(4 11/16%)
Long Bond	94 13/32*	(94 17/32)
Yield	7.99%*	(8%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	5⅞%	(5⅞%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	101 5/32	(101¼)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6262*	(1.6315)
London:		
$	1.6265	(1.6215)
DM	2.4381	(2.4344)
FFr	8.3535	(8.3440)
SFr	2.0299	(2.0220)
Yen	158.34	(157.68)
£ Index	80.4	(80.2)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4985*	(1.4927)
FFr	5.1358*	(5.1185)
SFr	1.2480*	(1.2385)
Yen	97.35*	(97.05)
$ Index	60.8	(61.0)

Tokyo close Yen 96.88

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jan)	$16.25	($16.40)

GOLD

London close	$390.55	($390.75)

* denotes midday trading price

Cable war

The two British cable communications companies that pulled stock market flotations earlier this year are now strongly disagreeing over *the prospects of a successful* float this year. **Page 26**

Smart cards

National Westminster and the Midland plan to turn the world into a cashless society. They have signed up Midland's sister company, Hongkong Bank, to become the first overseas partner for Mondex, their joint venture that is developing "electronic wallets" *in the form of smart* cards. **Page 27**

Growth slows during third quarter

By Janet Bush, Economics Correspondent

ECONOMIC recovery faltered in the third quarter of the year. Growth slowed because of a deceleration in industrial output.

Gross domestic product grew by 0.7 per cent in the three months to September, and by 3.6 per cent year-on-year, according to preliminary *figures from the Central Sta*tistical Office. This compares with growth of 1.1 per cent in the second quarter, which gave a year-on-year figure of 3.8 per cent.

The latest GDP figures are particularly important because relatively rapid *growth in the second quarter* was the main reason behind the ½-point base rate increase on September 12.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, said yesterday that growth was "healthy and sustainable", and spread across all main economic sectors.

The 0.7 per cent growth in the third quarter — the slowest quarterly growth rate since the first three months of last year — beat market forecasts of 0.6 per cent and left the City equivocal on the message for interest rate policy.

Some observers argued that *growth had not slowed* enough to preclude another rate rise soon. The 3.6 per cent year-on-year growth rate was clearly above the 2.25 per cent rate traditionally regarded as sustainable for the British economy. Economists at James Capel, the stockbrokers, noted that, even if GDP were to remain flat in the final quarter, growth in 1994 would still be 3.3 per cent.

Others, however, argued that Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, would find it difficult to convince Mr Clarke to sanction *another rate rise with growth* clearly slowing.

The authorities may want to wait for fuller third-quarter figures and to see whether the economy continues to slow in the next few months. Yesterday's figures contained only informal estimates for many *sectors*.

The slowdown appears to stem entirely from industry. Services are estimated to have grown at roughly the same rate as in the second quarter, despite increasing concern about the sector expressed by the British Chambers of Com*merce this week as consumer* demand slows.

CSO statisticians said that the deceleration in industrial production could not be attributed to special factors, such as an explosion at the Milford Haven oil refinery, and noted that there had been a fall in *engineering, a key manufac*turing sector.

Analysts are waiting for next week's quarterly industrial trends survey from the Confederation of British Industry, to see whether a higher proportion of manufacturers intends to raise prices.

Eddie George: difficulty

Just as important will be figures showing whether companies that wanted to raise prices in the last survey managed to do so. The last CBI survey showed that a balance of 12 per cent of manufacturers that had intended to raise *prices had been unable to do* so. The evidence of the CBI's price intentions survey was another key factor in the decision to raise interest rates last month.

Other figures published yesterday show that Britain's trade deficit with countries *outside the European Union* widened slightly in September, to £349 million, compared with £289 million in August.

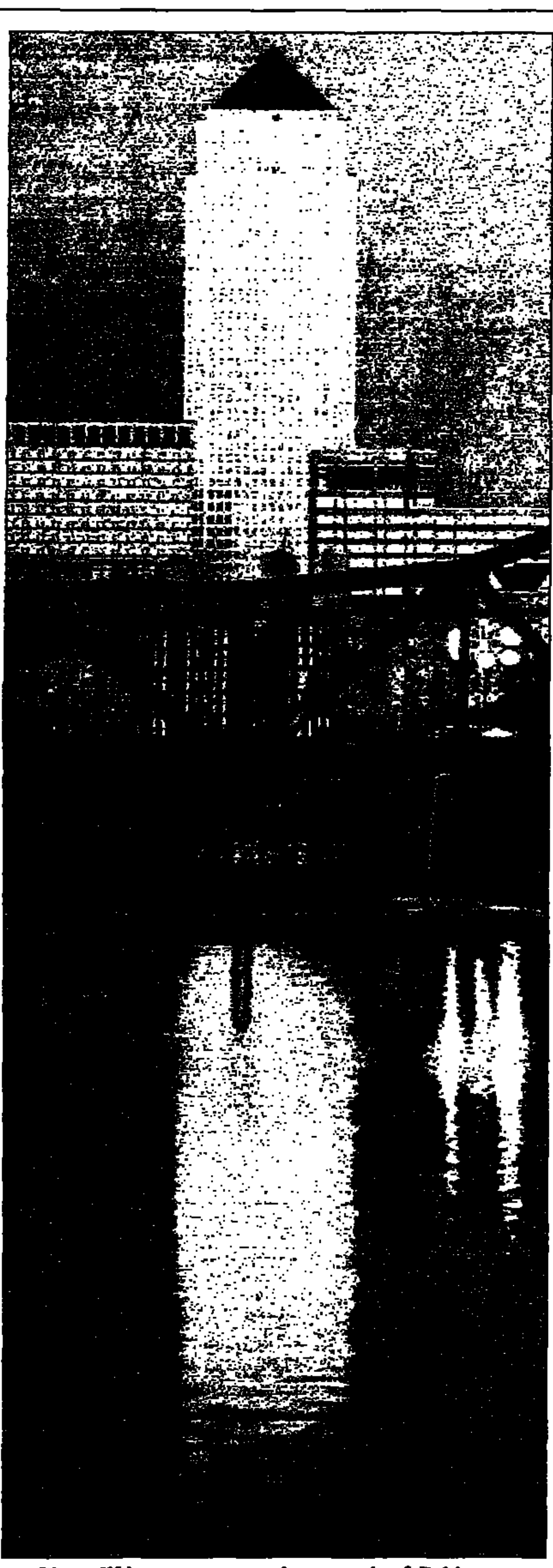
However, CSO statisticians said the underlying trend still pointed to a narrowing deficit. The third-quarter deficit of £1 billion was the lowest since the *first quarter of 1988*.

Excluding oil and erratics, exports rose by 3 per cent in the third quarter, compared with the second, while imports were the same in the two quarters.

A measure of the help that British exporters have had from sterling's devaluation since it departed from the exchange-rate mechanism in September 1992 is that, since then, exports have grown by 17 per cent, compared with a rise of only 7.5 per cent in imports, excluding oil and erratics.

Taking a similar period while sterling was in the ERM — the third quarter of 1990 to the third quarter of 1992 — exports fell by 1.5 per cent, while imports rose by 7.5 per cent.

Stock market, page 28



Gloom lifting: vacant space is expected to fall this year

Canary Wharf raises prospect of sale or float

By Carl Mortished

PROSPECTS are improving at Canary Wharf, the London Docklands office complex. It is expected that there will be significant new lettings by the end of the year and a flotation or sale is being mooted.

The mammoth 4.4 million sq ft complex, once dubbed Wall-Street-by-the-Thames, emerged from administration in November last year and Sir Peter Levene, the chairman, forecasts a big reduction in the amount of vacant office space. "You may find that things have changed by Christmas," *he said. "We have a lot of* negotiations going on."

One year after its relaunch, the Canary Wharf company has failed to make significant inroads into the 2 million sq ft of empty offices but Sir Peter believes that success in current negotiations could make a *difference. "It would make a* significant dent in the vacancy rate," he said.

Sir Peter revealed that the company had been approached by investors interested in buying the project outright since the lifting of the administration order. He indicated that an outright sale of the complex was one option for the 11-bank syndicate; or flotation was possible when the building was fully let.

One attraction to an investor is further development: Canary Wharf has plans for another 8 million sq ft, much of it on land still benefiting from Enterprise Zone tax allowances. "The cost to us of putting up buildings is so much less than an equivalent building elsewhere," Sir Peter said. "We also have large accumulated tax losses."

Sentiment towards the developer suffered through its *spectacular financial collapse* in 1992 under its former owner, Olympia & York, the Canadian property developer. However, financial security guaranteed by its bank owners has since restored its viability, while the arrival of the Jubilee Underground line *in 1998 will remove doubts* about its transport links.

Sir Peter said that persuading people was a hard, slow job but recent lettings, including a Tesco Metro store, and the prospect of a working population of 12,800 people by December made Canary Wharf *more* attractive to retailers and new tenants.

BAe keeps royal jet up to scratch

By Neil Bennett, Deputy Business Editor

IN A week when the veneer surrounding the royal family has been distinctly scuffed, the *Queen may be pleased* to learn that British Aerospace is on the case. The group has taken on the burden of replacing defective veneer on the table in the royal jet as one of the concessions in its efforts to reorganise itself.

BAe wrote a secret letter of indemnity to Raytheon, the American group that bought its corporate jets business last year, promising to replace or *mend any faded or scratched* veneer on the table in the BAe 146 regional jet that the Queen used on her historic flight to Moscow on Monday.

The letter has come to light during BAe's bid for VSEL as a material liability. It is among a sheaf of documents on display at Linklaters & Paines, the group's solicitors.

The saga of the veneer stretches back to when the group delivered three regional jets to the Ministry of Defence for use in the Queen's flight between 1986 and 1991. The jets are used by the royal family and other important figures for touring the globe, and were luxuriously fitted out by the corporate jets subsidiary in Chester.

Unfortunately, someone high up saw that not all was well with the veneer on the table. It was the wrong colour. British Aerospace apologised and put it right. The group told the MoD if there were any more problems, just telephone.

Raytheon took a dim view of such an open offer when it bought the corporate jets business last year, and wanted BAe to take on future responsibility for the Queen's veneer. A BAe spokesman said yesterday that the letter was "one of the final brushstrokes of the deal" and that there has been *no more problems* with the table for years. At least BAe is unlikely to suffer such ticklish problems if it buys VSEL. Trident submarines are rather short on veneers, preferring cold steel.

Challenge to Gooda judgment

By Colin Narbrough

LLOYD'S agents who had an estimated £504 million awarded against them in the Gooda Walker case in High Court this month are to appeal against the ruling.

A statement issued by Clyde & Co, solicitors for the *errors and ommissions* (E&O) insurers of some defendant members' agents, said that the defendants would appeal in particular against the approach to be used in assessing recoverable damages.

The Gooda Walker names, concerned about interim payments, have asked the court to make an order on account of damages still to be assessed. A submission has been made *to the court to determine* urgently whether the defendant agents are entitled to make a back-to-back claim against their insurers in response to any such order.

The insurers say the E&O policies taken by defendant agents would not be triggered by interim awards.

Orion Insurance calls in liquidator

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

ORION Insurance and its subsidiary London and Overseas Insurance, the Dutch-owned underwriting firms, have gone into liquidation with gross liabilities estimated at $1.5 billion.

The two firms stopped taking *on new business in 1992* and their operations were deconsolidated from the accounts of their parent, Internationale Nederlanden Groep (ING), in April 1993. ING wrote down their value to nil and made a 423 million guilder provision against future *losses*.

The firms were hit, along with Lloyd's underwriters and other insurance firms worldwide, by *massive claims on* general liability policies over asbestos, pollution and other latent liabilities. The group said in 1993 that provisions had been made for the run-off of activities which had been terminated, but added it was hard to judge what this final sum might be.

Paul Evans and Richard Boys-Stones, accountants from Price Waterhouse, were appointed provisional liquidators to Orion yesterday. They said they had not yet had an opportunity to examine the financial position but said the companies' gross liabilities *might* be of the order of $1.5 billion.

Some of those liabilities, for policies written after March 1969 for L&O and after August 1970 for Orion, will be paid by Nationale-Nederlanden, ING's insurance arm, which bought the firms in 1970.

Mr Evans said he plans to begin contacting major creditors, many of whom are policyholders in the US, next week. He *plans to discuss* with them the prospects for a scheme of arrangement for the companies which, he said, would mean a faster payment to creditors.

He said the firms had collectable reinsurance cover worth hundreds of millions of dollars, but *could not pay 100* per cent of their liabilities.

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Bank of Ireland Mortgages

TeleWest and General Cable disagree on flotation timing

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

THE two British cable communications companies that pulled stock market flotations earlier this year are now strongly disagreeing over the prospects of a successful float this year.

TeleWest, which had a potential £1.6 billion price tag when it decided in May that stock market conditions were too choppy for comfort, confirmed yesterday that it now planned to float shortly, possibly by the new year.

But General Cable, which also halted its progress to the stock market at the same time, is insisting that the London investment community is still unable to value properly the cable industry and a float now would deprive its French parent, Compagnie Générale des Eaux, of a fair price.

Philippe Galteau, General Cable's managing director, said: "We think the City and Wall Street have not realised yet the full potential of cable, and they still undervalue it."

His company, which was being valued at £500 million in the spring, has therefore decided against a float for now and is instead raising fresh capital from debt.

But TeleWest, headed by Alan Michels, is insisting that market conditions are right and investors' perceptions of cable are sufficiently favourable to allow it to offer fresh shares equivalent to a quarter of the company.

The company is putting much reliance on the share price performances of three US-quoted companies that operate in Britain, two of them market debutantes this summer. The shares of Bell Cable Media, Comcast and International CableTel have all strongly outperformed the market since August.

Mr Galteau, however, says this merely indicates the shares were not sold at their proper value and the flotations in America therefore undervalued the companies. But he concedes that the performance of TeleWest shares, once quoted, would give a clear indication for the timing of a flotation of his own company..

The US-owned TeleWest, Britain's largest cable operator and supplier to 3.6 million homes, is not saying how much the company will be worth or the precise timing of the sale. But advisers are thought to be confident of matching the earlier price tag.

Kleinwort Benson and Morgan Stanley are leading the global shares offer, which will lead to a quote in London and New York. In Britain, Cazenove has been taken on as broker to the issue.

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Stephen Davidson, TeleWest's finance director, and Alan Michels, chief executive

Share ration by Irish Permanent

Irish Permanent, Ireland's biggest building society before it converted into a public company earlier this year, is rationing the shares issued with its debut on the stock market. Former members of the society and staff were offered 14.4 million shares at Ir180p each, but valid applications were received for almost 40 million shares.

Those applying for up to 300 shares will get them all; larger applications will be scaled back. Letters confirming the allocations will go out on Monday and share dealing will start October 27.

B&A Film up

British & American Film Holdings, the investment company, is raising its interim dividend to 4.8p, from 4.275p, and intends to lift its final payout by a similar 12.3 per cent. Pre-tax profits rose to £675,156 (£618,456) in the half year to June 30 and earnings per share to 18.48p (14.29p).

High-Point loss

High-Point reported a pre-tax loss of £442,000 (£440,000 loss) in the year to May 31. Despite this third successive annual loss, the group claimed an improvement in underlying performance. Losses per share deepened last year to 11.5p, from 8.6p. A 0.5p dividend will be paid.

ASW talks

ASW, the steel manufacturer, yesterday disclosed that it has opened talks with Usinor Sacilor, the state-owned French steelmaker, on the possibility of taking a majority stake in Usinor's steel reinforcement business.

Dairy Crest and insurer axe 480 jobs

ALMOST 500 job losses were announced yesterday as a result of cutbacks at Dairy Crest, the milk producer, and Guardian, the insurance company.

Dairy Crest is closing creameries at Whitland, Dyfed, and Longridge, near Preston, Lancashire, on November 1, the day the milk industry is deregulated, with the loss of 261 jobs. Tim Wallis, a Dairy Crest spokesman, said: "These two creameries have been closed by deregulation. The cost of our raw material — milk — will rise by 20 per cent."

Guardian, which shed 268 jobs in January, announced a further 220 job losses, in branches throughout the UK. It expects about 200 of them to be achieved by natural wastage. The job losses are part of a restructuring under way since 1993. The overall review is expected to save £14 million a year in staff reductions and building cuts. The Banking, Insurance and Finance Union, representing 70 per cent of Guardian staff, said that it would oppose any compulsory redundancies.

Stagecoach acquisition

STAGECOACH, the biggest company to emerge from the privatisation of the bus industry, is acquiring Cleveland Group, with operations in Middlesbrough, Stockton-on-Tees and Hull, for £7.7 million. Stagecoach will also buy a 49 per cent minority interest in Kingston upon Hull City Transport, a subsidiary of Cleveland, for £656,000. Total acquisitions this year by Stagecoach have added £140 million to turnover. In the year to March 26 Cleveland earned taxable profits of £950,000 and net assets at the year-end were £117,000 after writing off goodwill of £1.2 million.

AAF 'will survive'

AAF Industries, the troubled mini-conglomerate, said its survival had been secured but further progress remained difficult and slow. In the six months to June 30, the company earned pre-tax profits of £6.4 million, as a result of a £9.44 million surplus on the sale of its Alloy Wheels subsidiary. Interim losses were £10.9 million last time. The operating loss from continuing operations was £2.47 million, on turnover of £12.12 million. The interest charge was £1.2 million (£1.3 million), but is likely to fall in the second half after a cut in net debt to £600,000, from £21.9 million at the end of last year. There is again no dividend.

Hunting slides to £13.5m

THE slump in the aerospace industry and the low oil price sent profits at Hunting, the weapons and oil services group, sliding in the first half of the year. Pre-tax profits fell 24 per cent to £13.5 million, although the figures in the previous year were inflated by a one-off disposal profit, so underlying earnings per share rose 109 per cent to 4.6p. The half-year dividend is being held at 4p, to be paid on December 16. Profits from the aviation division slid by 59 per cent to £1.5 million due to the low level of work, with many parts of the business making losses. The oil division suffered a profits reverse of 19 per cent to £7.6 million.

Greenpeace targets EVC float

By Neil Bennett, Deputy Business Editor

GREENPEACE, the environmental pressure group, has written to 150 fund managers in Britain and Europe warning them not invest in the forthcoming flotation of EVC, the PVC manufacturer that is being sold by ICI and EniChem, the joint owners.

The Greenpeace report says the high toxic content of PVC will soon cut demand for it and erode its markets. It says some insurers already demand higher premiums for buildings with a big PVC content and the packaging industry is replacing PVC with viable alternatives. The report is being distributed before publication of EVC's pathfinder prospectus on Monday.

PVC produces large quantities of highly toxic dioxins, organic chlorine compounds, when it is burnt. Dioxins have been accused of causing cancer and infertility and authorities are struggling to cut emissions. Greenpeace says many PVC users are already seeking alternatives, and SG Warburg, the issue's co-ordinator, has underplayed the environmental issues and is thus overstating EVC's value.

An EVC spokesman said: "The pathfinder prospectus will contain all the relevant information. This will not damage the prospects for the float. Investors will look at the detailed offer document."

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Lucas agrees $87m US buy

Lucas Industries, the British automotive and aerospace group, said it has agreed with Guy F Atkinson Co of California to buy its Lake Centre Industries automotive business for $87 million.

The cash deal furthers Lucas's aim of expanding the global presence of its core businesses.

Lake, which counts Ford and General Motors among its customers, will be part of Lucas's body systems division. It has revenues of $110 million and makes control panels for heating and air-conditioning systems, electronic assemblies and switches.

Fifth night in hotel for Brent Walker jury

By Jon Ashworth

THE jury in the trial of George Walker, the former chairman and chief executive of Brent Walker, the leisure and property empire, spent a fifth night in an hotel after again failing to reach verdicts. The 11 Southwark Crown Court jurors, who first retired on Monday, will resume their deliberations today.

Judge Geoffrey Rivlin told the nine men and two women that if no verdicts had been reached by Saturday evening, they would be given Sunday off. They would then continue their task on Monday.

The Crown has alleged that Mr Walker, aged 65, "orchestrated" a £19.3 million profit fraud at Brent Walker, which he founded.

He and Wilfred Aquilina, the former group finance director, deny two joint charges of false accounting, one of theft and one of conspiracy to falsify accounts.

Mr Walker, of High Road, Fobbing, Essex, denies three additional theft charges. Mr Aquilina, of Suffolk Road, Barnes, south-west London, denies an additional charge of false accounting.

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Canada $	2.319	2.159
Cyprus Cyp£	0.779	0.729
Denmark Kr	10.12	9.32
Finland Mkk	8.07	7.37
France Fr	8.83	8.13
Germany Dm	2.58	2.37
Greece Dr	389.00	364.00
Hong Kong $	13.23	12.23
Ireland Pt	1.07	0.99
Italy Lira	2575.00	2420.00
Japan Yen	173.00	156.00
Malta	0.623	0.568
Netherlds Gld	2.875	2.645
Norway Kr	11.18	10.38
Portugal Esc	260.00	241.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.47
Spain Pta	210.00	196.00
Sweden Kr	12.18	11.38
Switzerland Fr	2.17	1.99
Turkey Lira	refer	55317.0
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NUCLEAR ELECTRIC: John Collier and Robert Hawley

Actors and reactors in the power game

Jon Ashworth profiles the two men at the head of Britain's *state-owned* atomic power generation company

PETER TRIEVNOR

Nuclear
Electric
CLEAN ENERGY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Men with a mission: John Collier and Robert Hawley are zealous in their belief that Nuclear Electric must be privatised

Some years ago, a British engineer on a trip to Taiwan happened to venture out into the countryside. Looking back, all he could see was a dense cloud of brown smog. The capital, Taipei, lay somewhere underneath.

More recently, another engineer stood on the dock at Southampton, scanning the waters. A pale-green spinnaker slipped into view and the tears began rolling down his cheeks. The yacht was Nuclear Electric, and she had won the British Steel Challenge round-the-world race.

Robert Hawley, 58, the chief executive of Nuclear Electric, the state-owned atomic power company, has not forgotten that Taipei smog: his company supplies a quarter of electricity for England and Wales and he believes that "clean" nuclear energy can succeed where a hundred coal-fired power stations fail.

John Collier, the 59-year-old chairman who welcomed back the winning yacht, is more likely these days to shed tears of frustration rather than joy. Unlike its ocean-going namesake, Nuclear Electric is making heavy weather of it. The British public has yet to be sold on the wonders of nuclear power.

The wind is against them, but one would never know it. Hawley and Collier speak with evangelical zeal about their mission — to take Nuclear Electric to the stock market, to capitalise on the new Sizewell B nuclear plant in Suffolk, due to go "critical" next month. They also want plans for an even grander sister, Sizewell C, to be approved without delay.

Not everyone agrees. The Government, pondering the future of the nuclear industry, will not be rushed. Claims about the relative cost of gas-fired versus nuclear power are disputed. Yet the men who run Nuclear Electric are adamant: it must be privatised. They will shout the message to the *skies for as long as it takes.*

Hawley, with a string of letters after his name, grew up in Cheshire but based himself on Tyneside, selling turbines all over the world as an engineer with C A Parsons, and rising to become managing director of NEI, the engineering *group into which Parsons was* merged, now owned by Rolls-Royce. "It was a pretty thrilling time," he recalls from his airy office overlooking Pall Mall. "But I found myself at the age of 55 thinking, what's the next ten years going to bring? I'd done the same job for 33 years plus. It was time for a change."

Nuclear Electric caught his eye. "They were a company that was beginning to move," he recalls. "The perception was that they were very secretive, didn't know what their costs were. Here was an interesting organisation with some *very good people in it, so I thought:* I'll do it."

> "You have to look 40 years ahead: what's the UK going to do when the gas runs out?"

He joined after Collier split the role of chairman and chief executive in 1992. "I felt ten years younger as soon as I walked into the place. Within about two weeks it was just almost one voice, no division between us."

It was not long before private-sector disciplines were brought to bear. Nuclear Electric's workforce has fallen from 14,200 to 9,200, and will reach 7,500 in the next two years. Hawley says there was no alternative. "There were more PhD's per square foot than a university. Ask a question, and you'd get a 15-page answer."

The results are tangible. Output is up 45 per cent on four years ago, and productivity has doubled. "We put in *simpler* lines of communication," says Hawley. "It was a matter of thinning things down and making people more commercial."

If one is likely to find Hawley anywhere, it is in seat 1A on a British Airways 747. After being interviewed on Tuesday, he dashed to Heathrow to catch a flight to South Korea. He is due back in London this morning. He has been to Australia "something like 60 times", twice just for the day. "I like to get *there*, do it and get back. I travel first class, generally BA, always seat 1A so I can stretch out." At 6ft 2½ins, he needs leg-room.

He endured the smog of Taipei while negotiating a deal in the early 1980s and spent time in India, helping to construct a coal-fired power station. "We built it using 250 expatriates and 10,000 Indian labourers," he recalls. "There were hundreds and hundreds of women with babies on their backs, carrying baskets of bricks. It was a five-hour car journey to the nearest telephone and fax." The Pacific Rim, he says, holds great potential for British nuclear expertise.

Hawley enjoys gardening, and "pottering around" antique and curio shops. He has a prized collection of pens, each used to sign a deal worth more than £100 million. There are eight of them. He is currently renovating his house near Cirencester — a project he jokingly describes as "bigger than Sizewell B". His office is a picture of tidiness. His in-trays are empty. There is not a scrap of paper out of place. "I'm a great believer in doing today what has to be done today. You never know what the next day is going to bring."

Hawley has his own metaphor for Nuclear Electric. When he arrived, it was an overweight man carrying a bulky knapsack on an old-fashioned bicycle. His task was to slim the cyclist down, ease the load, and improve the technology. He and Collier make "a tremendous double act", sitting down for perhaps half an hour once a week, but otherwise free to pursue their separate paths. "I've never known anyone I've worked so well with," he says. "He's an absolute gentleman."

Collier, 6ft 5ins and weighing "more than you would like to know", can be just as easily pictured sharing a pint with the lads as holding sway in the Nuclear Electric boardroom. Born in London, the son of a professional musician, he spent five years as an apprentice at the Ministry of Supply at Harwell, and claims not to have lost touch with his shopfloor roots. He is also the consummate boffin. Students swear by his book on convective boiling and condensation.

Years in laboratories led to top-level posts with the Central Electricity Generating Board and the Atomic Energy Authority. In November 1989, he was asked by John Wakeham, then Energy Secretary, to take charge of the newly named Nuclear Electric, left behind when the rest of the power industry was privatised. "You just do not refuse a secretary of state in those circumstances," he laughs.

It was a daunting task. "I was a research engineer. I had no idea how to form a company." Nuclear Electric was duly launched on April 1 1990, and lumbered on for two years before Hawley came on the scene. "I'd known Bob for about ten years. We'd both done research, we think alike in many ways. Because he's been in the private sector, he's a little sharper than I am on some things. Really, the combination works very well."

Safety is one of Collier's responsibilities. Running the board is another, and a third is PR — "educating" City analysts, wining and dining politicians, banging on about the need for privatisation. "We think it's about time we joined the others."

Mention family life, and his eyes light up. He and his wife, Ellen, have been married 38 years. They have a daughter, Clare, an applied biologist, and a son, Douglas, a GP. Home is Gloucestershire, and there is a small flat in Kensington, west London, for weekdays. Opera is a passion.

The involvement with ocean-racing arose almost by accident. "Ellen always wanted to get inside a nuclear submarine," Collier recalls. "After climbing all over HMS *Sovereign* at Devonport, we noticed the first of the yachts being built. Yachting was environmentally friendly, a little bit upbeat. We thought that would be a very good investment." The strategy paid off handsomely. An investment of £250,000 won Nuclear Electric an estimated £7-8 million in free publicity. Photographs of the yacht crossing the finishing line in May 1993 filled the newspapers. "If we'd had a line to the Almighty, we couldn't have done better," says Collier. "It was a glorious sunny day. I was crying my eyes out."

Now, the cry is for a nuclear Britain. As Hawley puts it: "I'm not a messiah for nuclear power, but I do believe it's going to be needed. What's the UK going to do when the gas runs out? You've got to look 30 to 40 years ahead. Governments don't like doing that too much."

Banks dream of 'electronic wallets' for every shopper

Today they have Swindon in their sights, tomorrow *the world*, says **Patricia Tehan**

Mondex party: Neil Hockaday, left, and Trevor Blackler

National Westminster and the Midland are forging ahead with plans to turn the world cashless. They have signed up Midland's sister company, HongkongBank, as the first overseas partner for Mondex, their joint venture that is developing "electronic wallets" in the form of smart cards.

Trevor Blackler, NatWest's chief executive of group services, said talks were going on with 30 banks in 15 countries around the world. He described discussions with potential partners in Japan, Europe and the US as "encouraging".

NatWest and Midland set up Mondex last year, in partnership with BT, which is providing some of the technology. HongkongBank has acquired the rights to franchise Mondex in Hong Kong, China, India, Indonesia, Macau, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Malaysia.

Neil Hockaday, senior manager of card products for HongkongBank, said he expected smart cards, as a replacement for cash, to be well received in the Far East, where consumers take to new technology quickly. HSBC, the parent of HongkongBank and the Midland, operates in 67 countries *worldwide*, and it seems likely that other HSBC banks, elsewhere in the world, will also become partners.

Mondex, a plastic card that stores a cash value electronically on a chip, goes on trial in Swindon, Wiltshire, next year. Between them, NatWest and the Midland have 40,000 customers in Swindon. All will be invited to take part and big high street retailers, including Boots, Asda, Safeway, Sainsbury, WH SMith, BP and McDonald's are participating in the scheme.

Customers will be able to load the Mondex card with "electronic cash" at a cash point or at home, by inserting it into a specially adapted telephone linked to their banks. There will be similar phones in shops and in street payphone kiosks.

The trial will show how comfortable consumers are using electronic wallets instead of cash. When purchases are made, the prices paid will be automatically debited from the cards.

Because Mondex is seen as electronic cash, not as a substitute for a credit card, payment does not involve *authorisations* and consumers will not need to sign anything. Mondex, money can also be *switched* from one card to another.

Security is an issue for Mondex, because, if a card is stolen, money held in it can be spent, just like cash. The card can be locked, but to do that, the user has to find a telephone that has been adapted, insert the card and tap in a personal identity number.

Mr Hockaday said the Swindon pilot project would provide the opportunity to test the technology. HongkongBank would then carry out market research. He added, however: "When we go live, it will not be on a pilot basis, we will go live straight away." That could be as early as 1996.

NatWest and Midland have so far excluded other UK banks from Mondex, despite the fact that they do not have significant coverage in Scotland.

Mondex is not the only company hoping to use smart cards as electronic wallets. Several European banks and credit card issuers are working on similar schemes.

Visa International, the international payments group, is co-operating with bank-led groups in Belgium, France, Portugal, Spain, Taiwan and the US, with the aim of agreeing a common specification for electronic purse cards, so that different ones could be recognised by a single terminal in a shop.

Visa hopes Mondex and other bank groups that are currently developing smart card technologies on their own will join it in working towards an international standard.

Lloyds and Barclays are working with Visa. A Lloyds spokeswoman said: "We *want to make sure that there* are common international standards for these transactions between banks and retailers."

Roger Alexander, the managing director of emerging markets at Barclaycard, said: "There is a lot of work going on to try to understand the requirements of consumers and retailers."

Barclaycard ran its own trial using a smart card as an electronic wallet in the 1980s. Mr Alexander said the trial had been successful, in a closed environment where the bank had complete control. But the idea had not been *taken* further, because Barclays was focusing instead on deregulation in the plastic card market.

If use of the cards for small transactions in *retail* outlets becomes widespread, banks could save substantial sums, because they would have to handle less cash.

UK banks estimate that they spend £2 billion a year on cash distribution, and the cost to retailers has been put at £800 million. Banks might hope to save money not only by taking cash out of the system, but also by charging customers and retailers for the smart card technology.

However, it is not yet clear how quickly consumers and retailers are prepared to accept a world without cash, let alone whether they would be ready to pay for it.

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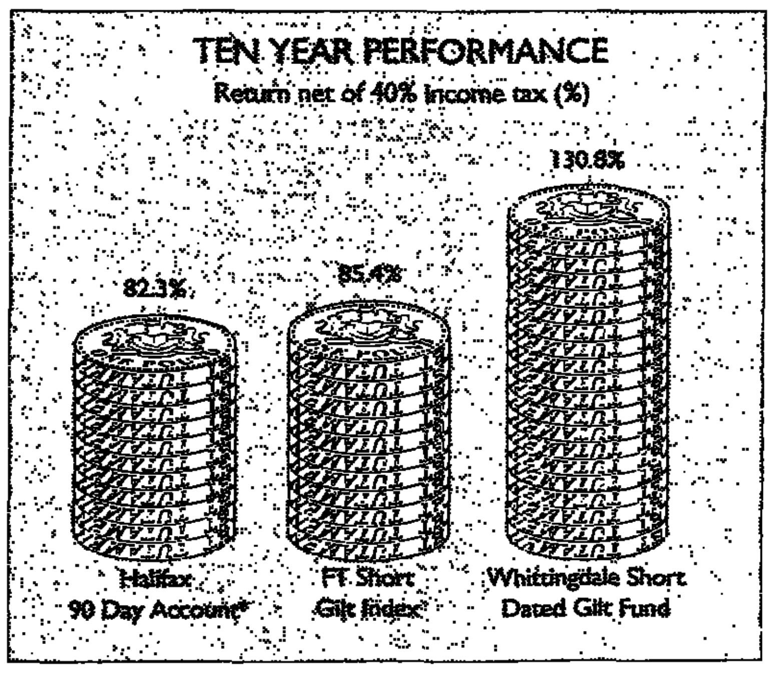

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STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Fears of US and German rate rises hit equities

IT SEEMS every investor on the London stock market has to be a budding economist these days dissecting all the available economic news from around the world as he tries to fathom a way forward.

Yesterday provided a seemingly endless stream of statistics, most indicating that a rise in German and US interest rates may be on the way. As a result, investors in London were left to beat a hasty retreat as share prices fell sharply.

Equities opened lower on the back of a 25-point fall in the Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street overnight and further losses when trading resumed yesterday in New York. There is growing concern that the Fed will need to raise interest rates to bring inflation back under control after publication of key economic data earlier this week.

The threat of growing inflation was also contained in the German money supply figures which showed faster than expected growth and could lead to a rate rise there.

London will find it difficult to resist the downward pull of both Wall Street and Frankfurt and trading conditions in the weeks ahead promise to be volatile. At one stage yesterday, the FT-SE 100 index was showing a deficit of almost 50 points but later rallied to close off the bottom, down 30.4 at 3,032.8. That stretched the fall on the week to 74 points.

Business got off to a shaky start, not helped by the worse than expected trade deficit with non-EC countries and a disappointing set of third quarter GDP numbers. Even so, expiry of the FT-SE 100 traded options passed off without incident offering investors the chance of a rally.

But the German money supply figures threw a spanner in the works, bringing turnover to a grinding halt. By the close last night a meagre 515 million shares had changed hands.

BP stood out with a rise of 5p to 408p on turnover of 6 million shares helped by positive comments from Smith New Court and NatWest Securities, the brokers, before third-quarter figures on November 1.

But **Reuters** dropped 6p to 459p before a run-down on current trading from the company on Friday. Reuters is expected to be a casualty of the recent downturn in turnover on the worlds' financial markets with job losses at many of the big securities houses affecting the number of trading screens it supplies. Brokers will be trying to gauge the damage to date and its impact on volumes at Instinet, the company's own trading arm.

Reuters is expected to suffer from the fall in financial markets

Babcock International had a rough ride, falling 2¼p to 29¼p as one large seller tried to unload stock on an unwilling market-place. This would no doubt account for the large number of shares traded. By the close almost 17 million had changed hands.

Cazenove, the broker, was pushing the merits of the electricity distributors to its clients in the run-up to the interim dividend season starting in December. But success was limited, with prices closing mixed. **East Midland** rose 8p to 711p, **Northern**, 15p to 772p, **London**, 2p to 689p, and **Manweb**, 4p to 778p. But there were setbacks for **Southern**, 3p to 726p, **Yorkshire**, 3p to 686p and **Eastern**, 2p to 737p.

Wickes, the DIY retailer, fell 1p to 89p despite a return to double digit sales growth last month after an August slowdown. But continental sales in July and August were affected by hot weather and were short of expectations.

Needler Group jumped 10p to 46p on details of its proposed refinancing of long-term debt maturing in November 1994. A total of $10 million will be financed via the Bank of Nova Scotia repayable over seven years.

Hampson Industries tumbled 14p to 52p in response to a profits warning after the official close of business on Thursday. The industrial group said it had experienced disappointing demand in the furniture and aerospace sectors. As a result it was unlikely to achieve the £6.5 million pencilled in for the current year by most analysts.

Azlan, the computer products specialist, moved to repair some of the damage to its share price caused this week by one institution failing to unload a parcel of shares. The group yesterday dispelled fears about current trading by announcing unaudited results for the first half were in line with management expectations showing operating profits of £1.2 million on sales of £37.7 million. Gross margins were estimated at 25 per cent.

AAF Industries were steady at 42p after a return to the black at the interim stage with pre-tax profits of £6.4 million against a deficit last time of £10.98 million. However, this included a profit of £9.4 million on the disposal of Alloy Wheels International.

Eurotunnel bounced 14p to end the day at 213p. The shares were marked lower on Thursday after the breakdown of the Eurostar train that had been intended to carry members of the media from London to Paris. A second breakdown by the train outside Calais went unheeded yesterday.

Hunting slipped 3p to 159p after falling short of brokers' expectations with a drop in first half pre-tax profits from £17.7 million to £13.5 million.

The group blamed the setback on weakness in the aviation market and reduced levels of activity in certain of the oil services operations. It gave warning there was still little sign of upturn in the aviation market.

□ **GILT-EDGED**: Gilts were again in retreat, worried by the dollar's weakness and the latest German money supply figures. But losses were reduced by the close with the help of bear closing.

The December series of the Long Gilt future finished three ticks lower at £101 5/32 as 72,000 contracts were completed.

In longs Treasury 9 per cent 2012 lost £7/32 at £103 25/32, while at the shorter end Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was five ticks off at £103¼.

□ **NEW YORK**: Shares, which had opened lower on a weak dollar and an 8 per cent Treasury bond yield, remained depressed at midday. The Dow Jones industrial average was off 21.87 points at 3,889.28.

We should hear on Monday that the rescue rights issue, priced at 25p, to raise £1.2 million at Baris Holdings has been fully taken up. This effectively reduces the stake of financier Bob Morton, who underwrote the issue, from almost 30 per cent to 25 per cent. The shares closed unchanged at 28p.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
Azlan	132p	-30p	Institutional seller
VideoLogic	20p	-5p	Deeper in the red
Sidlaw	196p	-29p	Asking for more money
Hampson Industries	52p	-14p	Profit warning
Eurotunnel	209p	-19p	Missing revenue forecast
Exco	184p	-10p	Boardoom split
Paterson Zochonis	463p	-26p	Profit warning
Auto Security Hldgs	77p	-11p	Chairman resigns
P&O Deferred	595p	-43p	Brokers say sell

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	3889.28 (-21.87)
S&P Composite	464.92 (-1.93)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	19899.08 (-92.82)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	9338.59 (-50.19)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	399.85 (-3.52)

Sydney:

AO	2034.6 (+18.3)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2022.22 (-47.73)

Singapore:

Straits	2377.45 (-4.80)

Brussels:

General	7157.91 (-52.14)

Paris:

CAC-40	1842.09 (-25.28)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	638.90 (-6.40)

London:

FT 30	2333.7 (-22.5)
FT 100	3032.8 (-30.4)
FT-SE Mid 250	3802.4 (-22.5)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1304.75 (-19.47)
FT A All-Share	1512.29 (-13.29)
FT Non Financials	1634.76 (-12.94)
FT Gold Mines	290.9 (+7.7)
FT Fixed Interest	108.05 (-0.26)
FT Govt Secs	91.29 (-0.01)
Bargains	22023
SEAQ Volume	515.9m
USM (Datastrm)	157.13 (-0.24)
US$	1.6271 (+0.0079)
German Mark	2.4345 (+0.0028)
Exchange Index	80.4 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2705
£:SDR	1.0897
RPI	145.0 Sep (2.2%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

APTA Health Wts	5	+¼
Artesian Estates	68	-2
Cont'l Foods Wts	1¼	...
Ennemix (63)	67	...
Games Workshop (115)	126	...
Group Dv Cap Wts	28	-1
Hambros Sml Asian	59	-1
Hambros Smlr As Wts	28	...
Mackie Intnl (180)	183	+2
Man ED & F (180)	164	-5
Prolific Inc	480	...
Servisair (135)	146	-3
Templeton Emerg New	364	-4
Templeton Emerg Wts	187	-4
Whitchurch	60	+2
Wrexham Water	340	...
Wrexham Water NV	320	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

APTA Healthcare n/p (17)	¼	...
Cattles n/p (118)	11	...
Dragon Oil n/p (Ir4p)	¼	...
Reckitt & Clmn n/p (500)	60	...
Sidlaw n/p (180)	9	-2
Smurfit (J) n/p (Ir330p)	45	-2
World of Leather n/p (75)	1½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

CPL Aromas	211p (+10p)
Eurotunnel Uts	209p (+10p)

FALLS:

HSBC	707p (-14p)
Borland	650p (-100p)
Hampson Ind	52p (-14p)
Wolseley	752p (-11p)
Caffyns	280p (-15p)
Presidio	113p (-15p)
BAT	428p (-12p)

Closing Prices Page 41

TEMPUS

Reeling off more cable

A CYNIC might wonder whether the return of one of this year's thwarted cable TV debutantes to the new issues slipway provides the clearest sell signal in the markets since the Americans started to raise interest rates. That view would be wrong; but the cable industry still has a great deal to prove.

To address one misconception, the float of TeleWest will this time concentrate on the prospects for telephony and there will be less talk about entertainment than last time around, for the "cable TV" companies no longer wish to be regarded as such. Video-on-demand is still an unproven commodity and rates of "churn", customers coming off the TV service almost immediately, are far too high for comfort.

In areas that have been cabled, the telephony side, the ability to undercut BT on price and then provide a wider range of services, is the key to growth. As an example, one of the new entrants, having acquired a customer base by offering prices 10 or 15 per cent below BT, has since raised prices to only 3 to 5 per cent less than its rival with little loss of business. Likewise, areas with a small but predominantly business clientele have proved to be significantly more profitable than tree-lined suburban streets full of residential customers.

TeleWest's decision to return to the fray, while General Cable holds defiantly back, has much to do with events on Wall Street. The three US-quoted British cable operators have outperformed the market since August, helped by Oftel's decision to allow number transferability, which makes their telephone services more attractive. This time, the float will be tied far more tightly to values set by Wall Street. But private investors should remain wary — this still looks like one for the professionals.

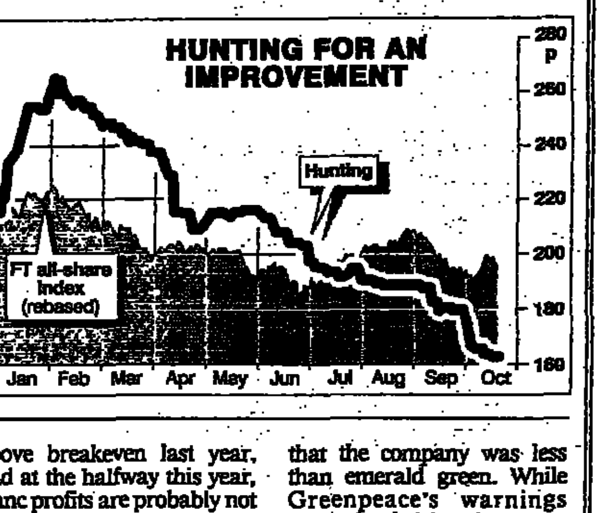
Hunting

HOWEVER vigorously it tries to reorganise itself, Hunting cannot escape the fact that the aerospace industry is flat on its back, and that its spread of peripheral aviation activities are bound to suffer when order books are thin and airlines poor.

The group needs to take more radical action if it is to make a reasonable return from aviation. The cargo and contract services divisions are both solid earners, the latter with strong prospects as the Ministry of Defence puts more services out to tender. But the loss-making interiors and engineering businesses may not survive the group's strategic review. Some disposals look likely.

Hunting has been just as unfortunate in its non-aerospace businesses. Oil services, far from acting as a counter-cyclical anchor for the group's bottom line, has hit a trough at the same point. Conditions should improve as the oil price firms however, and the recent acquisition of Hydra-Lok should add £1 million to profits in a full year.

If only Hunting's other divisions were as attractive as defence, which continues to prosper from its key niches, such as parachutes, even in a year when MoD orders were being deferred. Hunting's potential is undeniable: it is a group with a turnover of more than £1 billion. But until the management can unlock it the shares will continue to languish, although the 7.9 per cent yield provides support.


HUNTING FOR AN IMPROVEMENT
280
p
260
240
220
200
180
160
Hunting
FT all-share index (rebased)
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct

ASW

ASW, the Cardiff steel manufacturer which exports up to half of its products to the Continent, promised only a few months ago to look at opportunities arising from the shakeout in European steel. True to its word, the group has opened talks with Usinor Sacilor, the French state-owned integrated steelmaker, about taking control of its reinforcing steel arm, Société des Aciers d'Armature pour les Bétons.

With the European proportion of its sales set to increase, the acquisition by ASW of production capacity in France is logical. Unfortunately details of the talks are still scarce: the only number available is that SAM's annual turnover is almost half that of ASW. Its profitability, however, is likely to be minimal at best. Given that ASW, 20 per cent owned by British Steel, only just struggled above breakeven last year, and at the halfway this year, franc profits are probably not the immediate goal. ASW already has a small steel fittings operation in Paris, which means France is familiar country.

British Steel recently closed its export order book for construction steels in order to meet growing domestic demand. With the construction cycle turning its way, acquiring substantial capacity in France should be a sound strategic move, provided the price is right.

Environmental investment

GREENPEACE'S attempt to scupper the EVC flotation is a reminder of how rapidly environmental issues are moving up the investment agenda. Only two months ago, Body Shop's shares tumbled as the market fretted that the company was less than emerald green. While Greenpeace's warnings about the toxicity of PVC are unlikely to prevent the EVC float, they cannot have boosted the offer price.

Environmental pressure groups are showing a new maturity in appealing directly to investors' pockets. Most fund managers would not care if their company was responsible for polluting a river. But if the cost of a mandatory clean-up threatens the dividend stream, that is a different matter.

Environmental awareness and the threat of future legislation is discriminating against PVC due to its chlorine content, one reason why its growth lags other plastics. Nor can its qualities have been overlooked by ICI in its haste to quit the business and focus on cleaner, higher growth plastics such as PET.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	947-946	Mar	1054-1052
Mar	981-980	May	1066-1065
May	991-990	Jul	1076-1073
Jul	1002-1001	Sep	1086-1084
Sep	1016-1014		
Dec	1031-1030		Volume: 3993

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	3675-3670	Jul	3580-3560
Jan	3665-3660	Sep	3570-3550
Mar	3605-3600	Nov	3550-3520
May	3587-3565		Volume: 2987

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	336.0-35.5
Spot: 355.00		Oct	315.5-13.5
Dec	348.0-46.8	Dec	315.3-11.5
Mar	340.5-39.5	Mar	316.8-11.5
May	339.0-38.0		Volume: 1405

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on October 20

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	75.52	91.50	119.63
(+/-)	-0.02	+0.40	-0.35
Eng/Wales:	75.52	91.34	118.94
(+/-)	+0.01	+0.04	-0.90
(%)	-4.0	+7.0	+11.0
Scotland:	76.14	92.52	123.18
(+/-)	-4.05	+2.52	+2.54
(%)	+26.0	-5.0	n/c

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.30	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Dec)	16.30	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Jan)	16.25	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	17.40	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	17.45	-0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 183 (+3)	O: 185 (+3)
Gasoil EEC	152 (-1)	153 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Nov	153 (-2)	155 (-2)
Non EEC 1H Dec	155 (-1)	158 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	91 (-2)	92 (-3)
Naphtha	168 (-3)	170 (-3)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Nov	151.00-51.25	Feb	155.25 SLR
Dec	152.50-52.75	Mar	155.25-55.50
Jan	154.25-54.50		Vol: 23612

BRENT (6.00pm)

Dec	16.29-16.30	Mar	16.20 SLR
Jan	16.23-16.24	Apr	16.19 SLR
Feb	16.17-16.21		Vol: 24221

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	105.35	Nov	101.55
Jan	107.25	Jan	104.25
Mar	109.35	Mar	106.25
May	111.35	May	108.35
Jul	112.65	Sep	93.75
	Volume: 319		Volume: 102

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	150.0
Apr	218.0	217.9
May	unq	240.0
		Volume: 32

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Nov 84.25-84.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Oct 94	unq	unq	1855
Nov 94	1815	1810	1808
Dec 94	1765	1725	1745
Jan 95	1725	1700	1702
Vol: 256 lots		Open interest: 3085	

Index 1855 +4

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2576.0-2577.0	2570.0-2571.0	2580200
Lead ($/tonne)	653.00-653.50	664.50-665.00	176550
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1070.5-1071.0	1091.0-1092.0	529675
Tin ($/tonne)	5560.0-5565.0	5640.0-5643.0	32650
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1748.5-1749.0	1768.0-1769.0	2038375
Nickel ($/tonne)	6890.0-6900.0	7005.0-7010.0	123024

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Alld Dom	540	38½	—	—	1	—	—
(*575½)	589	3½	—	—	17½	—	—
BAA	500	7	21½	33	6	19	24
(*500½)	525	1	11½	21½	28½	35	39½
Thames W	500	20½	32	45	2	19	24

	Series	Calls Dec	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Puts Dec	Puts Mar	Puts Jun
Abby Nat	390	30½	38½	42½	8½	19	24½

[illegible]

FT-SE INDEX [illegible]

October 21, 1994 [illegible]

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 (Previous open interest: 58079)	Dec 94	3059.0	3061.0	3018.0	3042.0	14023
	Mar 95	3078.0	3078.0	3078.0	3064.0	30
Three Month Sterling (Previous open interest: 479068)	Dec 94	93.49	93.51	93.45	93.50	16196
	Mar 95	92.65	92.69	92.58	92.68	25112
	Jun 95	92.07	92.09	91.98	92.08	8269
Three Mth Eurodollar (Previous open interest: 4302)	Dec 94	94.00	94.00	94.00	94.00	10
	Mar 95				93.57	0
Three Mth Euro DM (Previous open interest: 638751)	Dec 94	94.84	94.86	94.76	94.79	34227
	Mar 95	94.54	94.57	94.44	94.47	54877
Long Gilt (Previous open interest: 94418)	Dec 94	101-02	101-08	100-17	101-05	72146
	Mar 95				100-06	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 94	107.71	107.75	107.60	107.60	1607
	Mar 95	106.99	106.99	106.98	106.88	47
German Gov Bd Bund (Previous open interest: 156906)	Dec 94	90.17	90.27	89.52	89.82	182759
	Mar 95	89.02	89.02	88.85	89.03	264
German Gov Bd Bobl (Previous open interest: 0)	Dec 94					
Three month ECU (Previous open interest: 21532)	Dec 94	93.94	93.84	93.76	93.81	727
	Mar 95	93.40	93.41	93.33	93.36	732
Euro Swiss Franc (Previous open interest: 42754)	Dec 94	95.78	95.83	95.76	95.80	2763
	Mar 95	95.46	95.49	95.42	95.47	1847
Italian Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 64138)	Dec 94	99.10	99.39	98.80	99.15	34228
	Mar 95	98.23	98.23	98.23	98.37	68

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¾ Finance Hse 6

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5 Low 3½ Week fixed: 5¼

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¼ ; 3 mth n/a . Sell: 2 mth 5⅛ ; 3 mth: n/a .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5 13/32-5 11/32	5 9/16-5 7/16	5¾-5⅝	6¼-6	
Sterling Money Rates:	5 15/32-5 13/32	5⅝-5½	5 13/16-5 11/16	6⅜-6¼	7 5/16-7 3/16
Interbank:	5 15/32-5 13/32	5⅝-5½	5 13/16-5 11/16	6⅜-6¼	7 5/16-7 3/16

Overnight: open 5 . close 3½ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	5 7/16	n/a	5¾	6⅜	7¼
Sterling CDs:	5 7/16-5⅜	5 11/16-5 9/16	5⅞-5¾	6 7/16-6 5/16	7 5/16-7 3/16
Dollar CDs:	4.92	n/a	5.52	5.82	6.42
Building Society CDs:	5½-5⅜	5⅝-5½	5 13/16-5 11/16	6½-6⅜	7⅜-7¼

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £2,642m allotted. £500m: Bids: £98.645% received: 97%; Last week: £98.645% received: 60%: Avge rate: £5.4229% last wk £5.4214%: Next week: £500m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	4⅝-4½	5-4⅞	5⅝-5½	5⅞-5¾	4¼-3¼
Deutschemark:	4¾-4⅝	4 15/16-4¾	5 1/16-5 1/16	5¼-5⅛	5-4
French Franc:	5⅜-5 5/16	5⅝-5½	5⅞-5½	5⅞-5¾	5¼-4¼
Swiss Franc:	3⅞-3⅝	3 15/16-3 13/16	4¼-4	4⅝-4 7/16	4¼-3¼
Yen:	2¼-2	2⅜-2¼	2½-2⅜	2⅞-2¾	2¼-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $391.50-392.00 Close: $390.30-390.80 High: $391.50-392.00 Low: $389.90-391.40 AM: $391.65 PM: $390.95

Krugerrand: $390.00-392.00 (£239.00-241.00)

Platinum: $425.50 (£260.70) Silver: $5.35 (£3.285) Palladium: $156.35 (£95.90)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Oct 21	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7209-2.7350	2.7316-2.7350	¼pr-par	¾-¼pr
Brussels	49.98-50.38	50.17-50.28	5-2pr	13-6pr
Copenhagen	9.4950-9.5450	9.5300-9.5450	par-⅜ds	¼-1¼ds
Dublin	1.0116-1.0201	1.0133-1.0159	4pr-par	8-4pr
Frankfurt	2.4271-2.4397	2.4365-2.4397	¼pr-par	¾-¼pr
Lisbon	248.32-249.91	249.26-249.91	79-86ds	242-261ds
Madrid	202.63-203.46	203.15-203.45	32-39ds	96-111ds
Milan	2486.60-2494.70	2490.70-2494.70	5-7ds	16-19ds
Montreal	2.2007-2.2172	2.2007-2.2038	0.15-0.07pr	0.20-0.13pr
New York	1.6260-1.6320	1.6260-1.6270	0.08-0.07pr	0.14-0.12pr
Oslo	10.5660-10.6250	10.6090-10.6250	¼-½ds	1½-2½ds
Paris	8.3210-8.3610	8.3460-8.3610	⅛pr-par	¼-⅛pr
Stockholm	11.5000-11.6180	11.5930-11.6180	1½-2½ds	6-7½ds
Tokyo	157.67-158.47	158.20-158.47	½-⅜pr	1½-1¼pr
Vienna	17.09-17.19	17.15-17.19	1½-½pr	4-2pr
Zurich	2.0189-2.0314	2.0284-2.0314	½-¼pr	1-½pr

Source: Extel — Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3663-1.3672
Austria	10.50-10.51
Belgium (Com)	30.71-30.74
Canada	1.3560-1.3565
Denmark	5.8320-5.8340
France	5.1130-5.1150
Germany	1.4920-1.4930
Hong Kong	7.7272-7.7282
Ireland	1.6076-1.6091
Italy	1526.50-1527.50
Japan	96.78-96.83
Malaysia	2.5510-2.5520
Netherlands	1.6723-1.6728
Norway	6.4960-6.4980
Portugal	152.63-152.73
Singapore	1.4732-1.4742
Spain	124.38-124.48
Sweden	7.0955-7.1030
Switzerland	1.2420-1.2430

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6243-1.6270
Australia dollar	2.2233-2.2255
Bahrain dinar	0.609-0.621
Brazil real*	1.3788-1.3830
Cyprus pound	0.738-0.748
Finland markka	7.407-7.523
Greece drachma	370.75-377.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.5830-12.5885
India rupee	50.96-51.65
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4785-0.4885
Malaysia ringgit	4.1530-4.1572
Mexico peso	5.50-5.60
New Zealand dollar	2.6588-2.6626
Pakistan rupee	49.48 buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0595-6.1855
Singapore dollar	2.3988-2.4012
S Africa rand (fin)	6.4042-6.4571
S Africa rand (com)	5.7027-5.7112
U A E dirham	5.9305-6.0545

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	496	Legal & Gn	841
ASDA Gp	7,300	Lloyds Bk	2,300
Abbey Natl	1,700	MEPC	728
Allied Dom	2,300	Marks Spr	3,700
Argyll Gp	3,400	NatWst Bk	1,500
Arjo Wiggn	1,100	Nat Power	2,200
AB Foods	116	Nth Wst W	845
BAA	1,800	P & O	1,200
BAT Inds	3,900	Pearson	508
BOC	946	PowerGen	1,300
BP	5,700	Prudential	3,100
BTR	2,700	RMC	538
BT	4,600	RTZ	3,700
Bk of Scot	2,000	Rank Org	681
Barclays	3,300	Reckitt Col	2,100
Bass	546	Redland	2,200
Blue Circle	2,200	Reed Intl	424
Boots	308	Rentokil	218
Bowater	1,100	Reuters	4,100
Brit Aero	864	Rolls Royce	2,500
Brit Airwys	2,100	Ryl Ins	2,800
Brit Gas	5,900	Ryl Bk Scot	1,100
Brit Steel	6,200	Sainsbury	844
Burmah Cstl	583	Schroders	24
Cable Wire	3,700	Scot & New	636
Cadbury	2,600	Scot Power	2,000
Caradon	383	Sears	3,600
Carlton Cms	981	Svrn Trent	993
Cm Union	1,500	Shell Trans	2,100
Courtaulds	513	Siebe	1,600
De La Rue	583	SmKl Bch	4,000
Eastern Elec	80	Smith Nph	1,300
Enterpr Oil	400	Sthern Elec	798
Forte	2,000	Std Chartd	4,300
GKN	1,600	Sun Allnce	1,500
GRE	874	TI Gp	974
GUS	810	TSB	1,800
Gen Acc	1,400	Tesco	1,600
Gen Elec	2,400	Thames W	731
Glaxo	2,100	Thrn EMI	357
Granada	1,700	Tomkins	1,600
Grand Met	1,400	Unilever	675
Guinness	1,400	Utd Bisc	4,800
HSBC	5,200	Vodafone	4,400
Hanson	11,000	Warburg (SG)	607
ICI	693	Wellcome	1,700
Inchcape	1,100	Whitbread	509
Kingfisher	1,600	Wllms Hld	666
Ladbroke	671	Wolseley	492
Land Secs	862	Zeneca	1,600

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	Oct 21 midday	Oct 20 close
[illegible]		

SAD ACCOUNT 30
TSB says no to teenage entrepreneur

WEEKEND MONEY

FUND FANS 36-39
A million more investors move into unit trusts

Homebuyers urged to chase windfalls

Mortgage indemnity premium rebates have not been passed on to most borrowers. Advisers are encouraging claims, says Sara McConnell

Borrowers may be able to claim hundreds of pounds in rebates from lenders who have not passed on mortgage indemnity premiums refunded to them by insurers, consumer watchdogs said this week.

Borrowers of more than 75 per cent of a property's value are forced to buy mortgage indemnity insurance. This reimburses lenders for any losses made on the sale of the property if it is repossessed. When borrowers move, or remortgage, these premiums are, in certain circumstances, rebated to lenders. But, the rebate is rarely, if ever, passed on to homebuyers, despite the fact that it is they who have paid the premiums. The premium can be several hundred pounds — more for those with large loans.

This week, Colchester Borough Council's housing advice unit announced its intention to launch a campaign to encourage people to approach lenders and request rebates. Phil Harris, housing and community services manager, says borrowers are normally unaware that rebates are possible because they are never allowed to see mortgage indemnity contracts, even though they pay the premiums for the cover in the first place. Lenders and insurers maintain that the contracts are confidential. But Colchester will advise people to write to the chief executive of their bank or building society, then, if necessary, appeal to the ombudsman. Jean Eaglesham, head of money policy at the Consumers' Association, says: "It is always worth saying: can I have a rebate? Most lenders do not offer this voluntarily. In terms of pure fairness, we have always believed borrowers should get the benefit. After all, the risk that lenders are insuring against is at an end".

Eaglesham: "fairness"

Lenders keen to keep customers loyal may oblige with a payout. Alternatively, if the lender is a mutual building society, it may argue that the money was retained for the benefit of all members. The Consumers' Association believes those who took out a loan before 1992 and are moving or remortgaging now stand the best chance of succeeding, as long as they have had their existing loan less than four years. Claiming retrospectively may be more difficult, it says.

Until two years ago, an informal system of rebates operated between many lenders and their insurers. If a borrower moved or remortgaged less than four years after taking out a loan, but stayed with the existing lender, the insurer rebated part of the mortgage indemnity premium to the lender. Rebates were usually based on a sliding scale. Typically, this was 60 per cent of the premium in the first year, 40 per cent in the second year, 30 per cent in the third year and 10 per cent in the fourth year. Terms of contracts varied because they were negotiated individually. Lenders were under no obligation to pass the rebate on to borrowers but many, including the Halifax and the Woolwich, did so. Some, like the Abbey National, did not receive rebates from insurers. Other lenders received rebates but held on to the money.

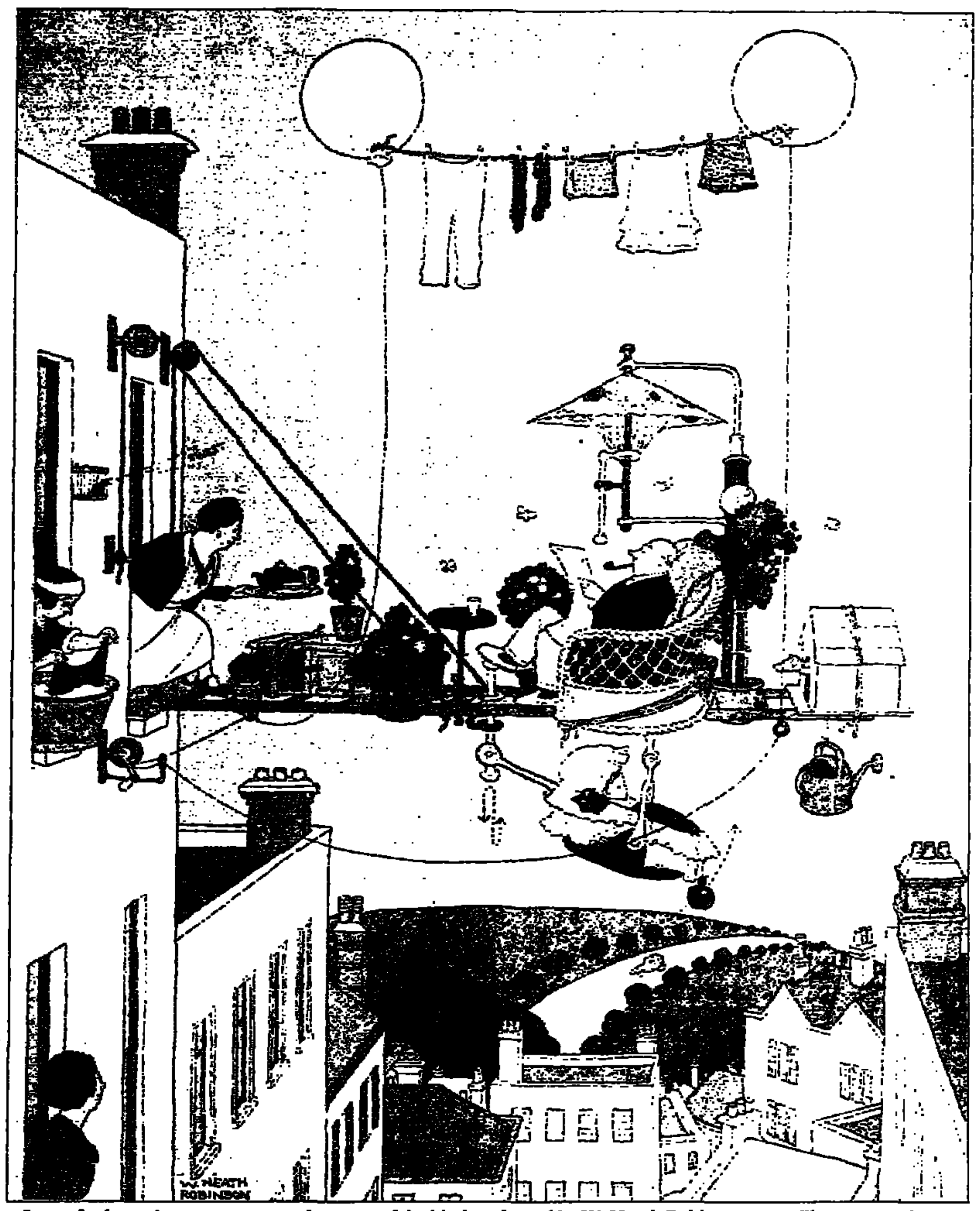
Mr Harris said he obtained several different insurers' mortgage indemnity policies when investigating claims made by Union Finance, a Southend company. Union Finance says wording in some older policies means the borrower, not the lender, benefits (see *Debt-trap 'loophole' is studied*, this page).

Mr Harris said: "When we looked through these policies, it was very clear that rebates were being paid [by insurers]. We feel it is only right the lender should hand the money over to the borrower".

Insurance experts and consumer groups believe borrowers who did not get a refund may have a "moral" case for approaching their lender and asking. In some cases, they may have received a rebate but not realised it because it was set against the cost of a new mortgage indemnity premium on their new property.

Insurers say it is up to the lender whether to pass on any rebate. Sun Alliance, the largest mortgage indemnity insurer, says: "We have rebate arrangements but, as far as we're concerned, this is between us and the society. What happens after is up to the lender".

Mortgage indemnity claims soared in the early 1990s, when the housing market collapsed and lenders repossessed tens of thousands of homes. In 1992, the terms of mortgage indemnity insurance policies were tightened significantly. There are now no rebates for borrowers moving house, but there are still rebates for homeowners remortgaging or taking out further loans with their existing lender — for example, for home improvements. The rebate is calculated using a formula which offsets the rebate against the cost of a new mortgage indemnity premium.



Loans for home improvements, perhaps not of the kind envisaged by W. Heath Robinson, can still generate rebates

Debt-trap 'loophole' is studied

The Consumers' Association is investigating controversial claims by Union Finance, a Southend company, that it has found a loophole in mortgage indemnity policies which could release people from the negative-equity trap.

The association has obtained copies of mortgage indemnity insurance contracts from various insurers and is considering whether they can be interpreted in the way Union Finance claims. It plans to publish its findings in *Which?* in December.

Union Finance says that the wording of some mortgage indemnity contracts means that the borrower, rather than the lender, is covered. It claims that the policy will pay off any negative equity, leaving borrowers free to hand in their keys and walk away from their debt. The insurer cannot pursue the borrower for the debt because the policy covers the borrower, Union says.

However, lenders say that any borrower acting in this way would be blacklisted from getting another mortgage. They say that the policy covers them, not the borrower, although the borrower pays the premium. Insurers can also pursue a borrower for the debt for up to 12 years after paying out to the lender.

The argument that borrowers benefit from mortgage indemnity policies, has also been rejected in court. Lord Justice Staughton, in the Court of Appeal, ruled against a borrower from The Mortgage Corporation who argued that a Sun Alliance policy covered him.

Local trading standards officers are monitoring Union Finance's activities, particularly its advertising, and are liaising with the Office of Fair Trading. However, Colin Gabell, a trading standards officer, says that Union was doing nothing illegal. "We are getting a lot of queries from members of the public. We are saying they shouldn't pay out any money in advance," he says.

SARA MCCONNELL

Captive benefits for the borrower

The growing trend for larger building societies to underwrite their own mortgage indemnity insurance could result in lower premiums for borrowers with a good track record of mortgage payments. The benefits to the borrower will stem from the flexibility and control enjoyed by societies who set up their own "captive" insurance companies, plus the use of increasingly sophisticated credit scoring methods.

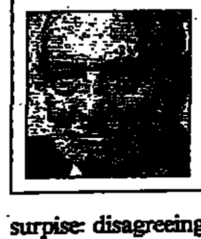
Although homeowners are not expected to benefit immediately, some of the societies say that, subject to movements in house prices, mortgage indemnity premiums could be held down and more favourable terms gained. These may include paying for mortgage indemnity on loans of more than 80 per cent of the value of the home, or spreading payments over the first one or two years of the mortgage. In 1992, after paying out billions of pounds to lenders caught by the collapse in house prices, insurers announced they would only cover 80 per cent of the risk, leaving lenders to cover the remaining 20 per cent. Then, in May 1993, societies were given the power to set up their own insurance companies.

The Woolwich was the first society to establish a captive, followed by the Halifax, Nationwide, Northern Rock and Yorkshire.

While most only use their captives to cover them for the extra 20 per cent, those of Abbey National, Northern Rock and Yorkshire cover the whole risk. Liam Ward, of the Yorkshire, says: "Under the regulations, we have to keep the premium in line with market pricing. However, the captive will enable us to enhance mortgage products over time."

KAREN MURRAY

The case for Dr Doom



ANTHONY HARRIS

These are dispiriting times. The stock market charts look like a campaign plan for the grand old Duke of York, who marched his troops to the top of the hill, and marched them down again. US profits beat forecasts, but Wall Street scarcely stirs in its uneasy trance, and the dollar sags. There is something rotten in the state of finance, yet it is hard to put your finger on it; time, in other words, to pay close attention to Dr Henry Kaufman.

Dr Kaufman has already appeared in this column, and will certainly do so again; he is the man who is always prepared to think the unthinkable. Wall Street long tried to laugh him off as Dr Doom, but the laugh was hollow, for the good reason that in the long run he was almost always right. In the 1970s he was warning of high inflation, and of interest rates at what looked to Wall Streeters like astronomic, impossible levels; the Carter inflation and the Volcker cure duly followed. In the mid-1980s his worry was about imprudent landing; enough said.

Currently he goes on about the false comfort which too many market men get from derivatives: they imagine they have abolished risk, but in fact they have only passed the parcel. This has not yet undermined my own belief that these dangers are now well understood by the professionals, and that hedging has made the markets choppy rather than fundamentally unstable — a tender but responsive yacht rather than a leaking car ferry. But did you, for example, read Joanna Pitman's report earlier this week on the follies of the huge Japanese banks? Possible capsize risk there, and no real surpise: disagreeing with Dr Kaufman is always an uneasy business.

And that is really the point of the man. He is the market's memento mori; and as he pointed out in a speech in Massachusetts this month, the market needs one. When it comes to bad news, the market has a blind-monkey syndrome. Credit managers are usually after growth — they had their fright, but they are at it again. Unit trust managers want your money; their warning that markets may fall are saved for the small print. "Negative forecasts are generally unwelcome" said Dr K. "Have you ever read an official report which projected a recession? Or, for that matter, a forecast by a major corporation which anticipated dramatic near-term events?"

A balanced outlook needs two sides: but when it comes to weighing the downside, the investor is pretty much on his own apart from Dr K — and one or two equally pig-headed followers, such as Professor Tim Congdon (though he is cheerful at the moment), or the ever-gloomy Wynne Godley. So let me depress you a little more by mapping some of the main hazards ahead. Two we can pass with a nod: the danger of a speculative crash, despite the Kaufman warning, because such disasters usually appear out of a blue bull-market sky; and the threat of deficient world savings, because it is already being discussed in this column and elsewhere.

However, the biggest danger is the easiest to overlook, simply because it has been around for so long: is it possible that the bull market in equities, which has been running with one or two interruptions for more than 30 years, is nearing its end? If you look backwards, this question is absurd. Equities have consistently outperformed all rival investment for even longer, and according to a recent study from the US National Bureau of Economic Research, they are still grossly undervalued in relation to bonds.

However, looking backwards is not the safest way to see ahead. The fact that equities now yield less than half the running yield on bonds means that the market does now price in outperformance, even if the price is too low to satisfy the NBER. But remember that this gap which used to be known as the reverse yield gap. It was not always so, and a good deal of the historic outperformance of equities is simply a measure of the adjustment the market has already made. At some point such an adjustment must be complete; the market premium should then fall.

Is this crying "Wolf!", as equity fanciers have always argued? Quite probably; but remember that the wolf was real, after all. Investment means risk.

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The 48-hour service is available on loans up to a maximum £150,000 and costs £50 more than TMB's conventional service. This is added to the standard processing fee, £225, on a property valued at between £50,000 and £100,000. For details, call 01244 692402.

■ The Cheshire Building Society will repay up to 5 per cent of the value of a loan within four weeks of completion of a new mortgage. The offer applies to variable base rate mortgages of up to 75 per cent of the property's value. On loans up to 85 per cent, borrowers get 4 per cent cash back; on 95 per cent, 3 per cent.

Correction

A report (October 8) stated incorrectly that the committee of the Hartsbourne Golf and Country Club, of Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire, had announced that a VAT refund would be retained for the club as a whole rather than returned to individual members. The committee points out that no decision has yet been taken. We also accept that there was no "mini-riot" by members and apologise for the errors.

TSB says no to teenager over business account

PETER TRIEVNOR

Stuart Woolman was turned down because of a debt problem relating to his father

Of all the high street banks, TSB is the one which has made the biggest play for the "youth" market. The bank sees this *sector of the banking population as the one with the most potential for attracting custom. So Stuart Woolman, a 17-year-old TSB customer, was surprised to be turned down when he applied to open a business account with the bank. He made the application on the recommendation of* his local bank manager, as his fledgling computer company was anticipating an annual turnover of £40,000.

Mr Woolman opened his TSB personal account in March. He used the account for processing cheques written out to his newly formed business, Elm Ridge Computing, based at his home in Totteridge, north London. But the business took off even faster than the young entrepreneur had envisaged. Within a month of opening the account, he had to apply to be registered for VAT.

With the business heading for an annual turnover of £40,000, Mr Woolman was advised to open a business account, because larger companies did not want send their cheques to a personal account. Also, suppliers wanted a bank reference before extending credit facilities.

A week after Mr Woolman had filled out the relevant forms, a letter arrived from TSB's Commercial Banking Centre, saying: "I regret to advise that having completed our account opening formalities, which includes the use of a credit reference agency, I am unable to provide the facility requested. I trust that you will be able to make alternative arrangements."

Credit reference agencies keep details on individuals and addresss where at some stage there has been a debt problem. TSB's search had thrown up a problem relating to Mr Woolman's address. He says: "It related to my father and had nothing to do with me. My father even rang the TSB to explain this but they wouldn't listen. For myself, I have never held a credit card, or had a mortgage. I have a cheque book and, during that time, I have never bounced a cheque.

"Nor did I want to borrow money on the business account. I simply wanted to process cheques. When I put this to the manager, he said: "But you may want to borrow one day." I did consider changing banks, but I just felt aggrieved at the TSB's attitude and I want them to admit that they made a mistake."

A spokeswoman for TSB verified Mr Woolman's story, while adding that a search had found Mr Woolman's company "did not appear to be registered anywhere".

After the intervention of *Weekend Money*, the bank's spokeswoman said: "I have spoken to the area manager who will be contacting Mr Woolman to arrange a face-to-face meeting with a view to reconsidering his application."

ROBERT MILLER

Funds still favour emerging markets

The appetite for emerging markets funds appears to be as voracious as ever, according to the latest review from Fund Research, *published this week (writes Robert Miller). The review shows that funds under management have risen nearly fourfold over the past 12 months, which Murray Johnstone hopes is a good omen for its emerging economies investment trust, to be launched* early next month.

While Murray Johnstone points to the World Bank forecasts showing an anticipated average annual growth rate of 4.8 per cent in emerging economies, compared with only 2.7 per cent for OECD countries, over the next decade, Fund Research stresses the importance of picking the right fund manager. It says that in the past year, the best global emerging markets fund increased 67.2 per cent, and the worst by only 6.2 per cent.

Murray Johnstone was voted Micropal's Best Investment Trust Manager in 1993 for consistent performance over one, five and 10 years. The fund management house, based in Glasgow, expects to invest its initial portfolio in Asia, Latin America and Europe.

As a sweetener, Murray Johnstone will be offering investors one free warrant for every five ordinary shares. A similar offer of free warrants is available with Fidelity's Special Values UK investment trust, launched this week.

■ Details: Murray Johnstone: tel, 0345 222 229; Fidelity: tel, 0800 414191.

BRIEFINGS

The Halifax Building Society has boosted the interest rates paid on most of its savings accounts. Net rates on the Instant Xtra Plus account have been increased from between 2.81 per cent and 3.75 per cent to between 3.08 per cent and 4.01 per cent, depending on the amount invested. Those on the monthly income account have increased from 2.93-3.94 per cent to 3.19-4.20 per cent and, on the 90 Day Xtra account, from 3.11-4.20 per cent to 3.38-4.46 per cent. The Tessa rate has been increased by just 0.2 points to 6.2 per cent.

■ The Skipton Building Society has increased its mortgage rate to 8.14 per cent — but only three in ten of its borrowers will feel the full effect of the rise. This is because the society has knocked 0.1 percentage points off its standard variable rate for anyone paying by direct debit, a method already used by 70 per cent of the Skipton's borrowers. The society says: "Our statistics show that mortgages paid by direct debit are less likely to get into difficulties, and it is these members we wish to keep."

■ Direct From Framlington, on 0345 775511, is a telephone advice and information service for unit trust investors. Framlington is also offering a 30 per cent discount on initial unit trust charges until December 30.

■ Johnson Fry's new guaranteed equity bond pays 35 per cent interest over 5½ years, or 120 per cent of any rise in the FT-SE 100 Index on 95 per cent of the initial investment, whichever is greater. Profits are paid net of basic rate tax.

■ Save & Prosper's new guaranteed income bond pays 7 per cent net a year for three years, or 7.75 per cent for five years.

■ The Prudential has published a free Peps guide for new investors. An Introduction to Peps shows how Peps work and outlines the pros and cons of investing in them. Details on: 0800 000 000

■ A two-year fixed rate mortgage, pegged at 5.99 per cent, is available from Northern Rock on new loans and remortgages up to a maximum £150,000. National Counties has launched a mortgage fixed at 5.45 per cent until June 1996.

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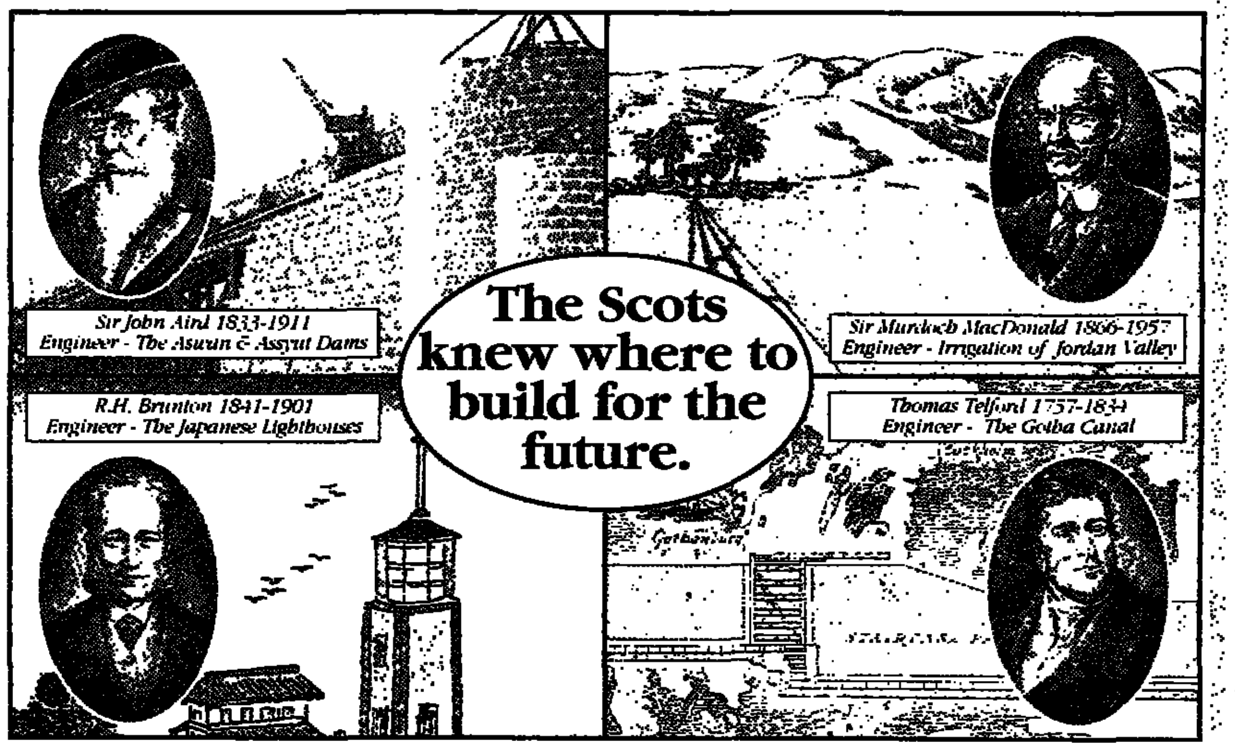
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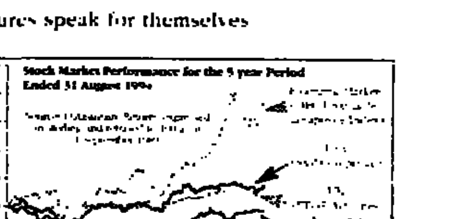
Stock Market Performance for the 5 year Period Ended 31 August 1994

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Theatregoers are crazy for you

A NIGHT out at the theatre is becoming a luxury for many people, especially those living a long way from the nearest one (Nicola Cole writes). With the cost of decent seats — from £17.50 to £30 — plus travel, parking, babysitters, meals and so on, the average couple faces a minimum bill of about £70.

The Theatregoers' Club of Great Britain was founded in 1978 with the twin objectives of boosting theatre attendance and offering a reasonably priced travel and tickets for theatregoers. Membership is £22 a year plus £20-£35 per trip for luxury coach return travel from near their homes to productions in London and regional theatres. Most evening performances are in the West End and towns such as Guildford or Watford. *Les Miserables*, and *Crazy for You* (above) are two recent productions visited. The club is at 55-56 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4EA. (071-2400 915).

WEEKEND MONEY COMMENT

Open season on the grouse bureau

Most industries that deal directly with consumers now operate some form of disputes procedure for disgruntled clients. None is perfect. Some are, however, better than others in sorting out problems that will inevitably arise when dealing with such sensitive subjects as family incomes, unemployment, illness, housing and personal relationships. Last year, 90,582 people filed a formal complaint to the Solicitors Complaints Bureau, 15 per cent more than in the previous year. It is a fair bet that an unacceptably large proportion of these people are still waiting for their problems to be addressed.

An article about delays suffered by one SCB complainant, published last month in Weekend Money, attracted one of the largest ever responses to any piece appearing in this section. This is particularly intriguing when one considers that, while subjects covered in a personal finance section will sometimes concern legal matters, these pages are not normally the first port of call for readers wishing to bone up on badly-behaved solicitors. The most common criticism of the SCB is the unacceptable time complainants have to wait to have their cases addressed. The initial reason for many of these delays is the bureau's apparent powerlessness when solicitors fail to produce clients' files within a reasonable time span. Nothing can be done until the files are received by the bureau, but some readers report waiting for well over a year. Some say the files have never materialised. The SCB says that solicitors who do not produce files face disciplinary proceedings. But they appear to be given much leeway first.

Others complain of waiting for years for a decision, only to be told that the case did not fall within the bureau's remit. There are those whose complaints were first made before the SCB was formed in 1986 and are still awaiting a decision.

Many report difficulties in finding another solicitor prepared to argue on their behalf when they have found the legal complexities of their case too difficult to cope with. When asked why the SCB was unable to explain these complexities to lay complainants, a spokeswoman said: "We are not able to give specific advice to one or other party involved in the dispute."

Consumers are not always in the right. Some blatantly abuse the system. Others will feel hard done by, however reasonable the treatment they receive. But the criticism, both of the SCB and of the legal profession it was set up to serve, is too great to be put down simply to the "nutter" element. It must be taken seriously.

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M&G

THE NEW M&G MANAGED GROWTH PEP

The Leeds reaps benefits from account-switching

Millions still missing out on interest, say Liz Dolan and Karen Murray

Leeds Permanent Building Society reports that account closures have fallen by half since its decision *this year automatically* to switch savers out of obsolete accounts into newer accounts paying higher rates of interest. An average of 3,400 Liquid Gold accounts, for instance, were closed each month before the policy was introduced. Now, the figure is more like 2,500.

"It can't just be a coincidence," says Paul Duffin, the head of savings. "A lot of people tend to be so angry when they discover that they have been losing out on interest rate increases . . . that they vote with their feet and move all their accounts to another society."

Obsolete or discontinued accounts are those that are closed to new savers. They will normally have been replaced by accounts paying higher rates of interest. Most banks and building societies tend to *leave savers to discover for* themselves that they would be better off in one of the newer accounts. The Leeds is one of the few that automatically make the switch for them. Others include the Cheltenham & Gloucester and National & Provincial. Mr Duffin calculates that transferring one million accounts, with a total balance of £450 million, is likely to cost the Leeds £11 million over two years. "But, going by the improvement in account closures, it looks as though there are benefits for us, too." Another, unexpected, effect of the new policy has been to galvanise people whose accounts have lain dormant for years into becoming active savers again.

The Leeds estimates that £20 billion in savings are languishing in 20 million obsolete accounts, losing savers £800 million interest a year.

National & Provincial has moved £380 million in 600,000 accounts to higher paying alternatives since March, at a cost of £5 million in extra interest. Birmingham Midshires has set up a "best account" project under which it expects to have upgraded accounts worth £750 million *by January. It is about to* launch a new account that will, it says, eliminate the problem.

But many societies will not switch customers into higher accounts on the ground that it would interfere with customers' independence. The Skipton says it may mean moving customers into accounts offering terms different from those of the original ones.

Regulations require building societies and banks to take reasonable action to inform customers about changes in interest rates. They have to advertise in two national quality newspapers and display their rates in their branches.

☐ Stuart and Jill Hamilton are almost £2,000 richer, thanks to Birmingham Midshires' decision to use a tracing agency to find the owners of dormant accounts. Mr Hamilton opened an account in 1978 with £300 and then forgot about it. Two months ago, the society informed the Hamiltons that the balance of the account had grown to £1,977. The couple has opened another Midshires account.

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Exchange rate fluctuations can affect both income and capital values.

As at 1st September 1994 the estimated gross distribution yield, based on the Fund Managers' then anticipated portfolio was 1.1%, (0.88% net).

APPLYING FOR UNITS AT THE LAUNCH
Applications for units at 25p each must be accompanied by a cheque made payable to "The Royal Bank of Scotland plc A/C M&G Offer" and must reach The Royal Bank of Scotland plc., M&G Unit Trust & PEP Offer, Registrar's Dept., New Issues Section, P.O. Box 859, Consort House, East Street, Bedminster, Bristol BS99 1XZ not later than 5.00 p.m. on 28th October 1994 when the initial offer closes. Your application will be held by the Bank as your agent and will be submitted to M&G Securities Limited shortly before the offer closes on 28th October 1994, when cheques will be presented. Receipt of applications by The Royal Bank of Scotland will be acknowledged. Contract notes in respect of applications received during the initial offer will be issued on 31st October 1994. The minimum initial investment is £500.

No unit certificates will be issued in respect of holdings in this Fund though investors will be issued with statements confirming their holding every six months in March and September commencing March 1995.

BUYING AND SELLING UNITS AFTER THE LAUNCH
After the offer period has closed you can buy or sell units at the price ruling on the day by writing to M&G Securities Limited, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB, or telephoning the Customer Services Department on (0245) 390390 between 8.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. (Monday to Friday) with your instructions. When you deal by telephone between 2.30 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. you will normally be able to deal at that day's 2.30 p.m. prices. When you deal by telephone after 5.00 p.m. and before 2.30 p.m. you will be able to deal at the next price calculated by the Managers.

Payment for the purchase of units by post must accompany your instructions. Payment for the purchase of units by telephone must be made not later than five business days after the date on the contract note. The redemption proceeds from the sale of the units are payable four business days after either (i) the valuation point immediately following receipt of your instruction, or (ii) if later, receipt by us of a correctly completed form of renunciation. M&G however currently waive the need for a form of renunciation in the case of a holding registered in a sole name, where the redemption instruction is given by the registered holder in person, the redemption proceeds are to be made payable to the registered holder at the registered address which has not changed within the previous thirty days, the redemption has been effected not less than thirty days after the units were purchased and the sum in question does not exceed £5,000. A form of renunciation will, when required, be issued with your contract note. Alternatively, you can buy and sell units through your independent financial adviser.

UNIT PRICES AFTER 28TH OCTOBER 1994
The prices will be calculated as at 2.30 p.m. each business day, and the Managers have a discretion to carry out additional valuations when they consider it desirable to do so. Prices and yields will appear daily in the Financial Times. The spread is the difference between the "offered" price (at which you buy units) and the "bid" price (at which you sell). The unit price must rise by this amount before you cover your dealing costs. We have a discretion to vary the pricing basis of the units and also the spread within a range, calculated in accordance with statutory regulations.

Since this will be a new unit trust it is not possible to quote either the most recent bid-offer spread, or the maximum permitted spread, but in normal circumstances the spread between the bid and offered prices is likely to be about 5½%, though we retain the right to widen the spread or change the pricing basis within the permitted range. We have a further discretion to vary the pricing basis and spread in the case of a large deal. *Large deals, within the meaning of the* relevant statutory regulations, are those with a total consideration of £15,000 or more in respect of any one deal.

INCOME UNITS
Only Income units will be issued. Investors may opt to have income reinvested. Units acquired on the reinvestment of income will be issued at a discount equivalent to the Managers' preliminary charge. When income is reinvested only whole numbers of units are issued and any balance money will be held in a client money account and carried forward to the next income payment date.

Investors who opt to receive income distributions will be sent a direct credit mandate for completion which will enable income, net of basic-rate tax, to be credited automatically to their current account.

Holders will receive a six-monthly tax voucher with their income distributions in March and September commencing September 1995.

TAXATION OF THE FUND
The Fund will pay corporation tax at the lower rate of income tax (currently 20%).

It is expected that the Fund will pay both dividend distributions and Foreign Income Distributions depending on the amount of each type of distribution received from underlying funds in each distribution period.

It is expected that the foreign income dividend distribution paid, if any, will be equivalent to a grossed up ordinary distribution, and as a result non-taxpayers should not be penalised.

Authorised unit trusts are exempt from tax on capital gains on dealings within the Fund.

INCOME TAX
Dividend distributions carry a tax credit of 20% of the total of the dividend and tax credit and non-taxpayers can use the tax credit voucher to support a tax repayment claim.

Foreign Income Dividend distributions will not carry a tax credit, but will be deemed to have suffered tax equivalent to the lower rate. This tax will not be recoverable.

Higher-rate taxpayers will have a further liability to tax on all distributions. Distributions will be treated as the top slice of income.

Investors liable to tax at the basic rate or lower rate will have no further liability to tax on dividend distributions and foreign income distributions.

Investors in Managed Growth Fund should note that part of the distributable income will *represent equalisation received in respect of* units acquired in underlying funds. To the extent that the distributable income of Managed Growth Fund represents such equalisation, this will be treated as a return of capital for taxation purposes, and accordingly will neither be subject to income tax nor will carry a tax credit. The element of equalisation received will constitute a deduction from the base cost for capital gains tax purposes.

For holders subject to corporation tax, distributions will be treated as annual payments to the extent that the Fund receives unfranked income. Such holders may be liable to additional corporation tax on the grossed up distribution.

CAPITAL GAINS TAX
For 1994/95 an individual's first £5,800 of gains on disposal in the tax year is to be exempt from tax. Gains in excess of £5,800 will be added to the individual's other income and taxed at the rate of tax applicable. There is additional tax relief as the acquisition cost is indexed to allow for inflation.

MANAGERS' REPORTS
The Managers' half-yearly and annual reports on the Fund, including the latest portfolio, will be available free on request and will be sent to all unitholders on 1st March and 1st September each year, starting on 1st September 1995. Unaudited interim accounts and audited final accounts of the Fund will accompany the appropriate reports. Scheme Particulars are also available from the Managers free of charge.

CHARGES
An initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price which is the maximum authorised by the trust deed. The Managers' annual charge of 1.5%, based on the fund's mid-market value (plus VAT), is deducted *from gross income fortnightly on a pro-rata* basis. Trustee's, Registrar's and Auditor's fees are paid by the Managers though the trust deed allows them to be charged to the Fund.

TRUSTEE AND AUDITORS
The Trustee is The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. The Trust Deed may be inspected at the Head Office of the trustee or at M&G's office at Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. The auditors are Price Waterhouse.

FURTHER INFORMATION
The Fund is a wider-range investment and is authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986.

Where an investor has cancellation rights *and exercises his right to cancel a contract* to purchase units he will not get a full refund where the purchase price of the units falls before M&G announce that the cancellation notice has been served because an amount equal to such fall in value will be deducted from the refund the investor would otherwise receive.

If you have any queries concerning any aspect of the M&G unit trust range please get in touch with your independent financial adviser (if you have one) or M&G's Customer Services Department, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Telephone (0245) 390390 (8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Monday to Friday).

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Anne Caborn advises prodigies' parents

Young musicians' needs demand plenty of notes

Discovering a budding Yehudi Menuhin in the family may be the dream of many parents, but the cost can come as a rude awakening. Even well-off parents, who can quite easily pay for music lessons and exams, are not necessarily able to find the capital when a child needs a new, or better, instrument.

Instrument loans, grants and scholarships tend to be restricted to the least well off and the most talented. Other sources, such as the Loan Fund for Musical Instruments, are open only to professionals. "What help there is, is for lower-income families," says Judith Crawford, adviser on grants for the Independent Schools Information Service. "When it comes to repayable loans, these could well affect a trust's charitable status, so you don't tend to find them." Local education authorities may be able to help, but tend to concentrate on those with serious financial problems.

Music shops sometimes run instrument rental schemes or offer credit terms. Howefver, it might be better to secure finance elsewhere — such as from your bank — so you can push for discounts.

There are less obvious possibilities. "I would ask parents what they do and whether help may be available from their professional body," says Valerie Beale, of the Musicians' Benevolent Fund. "People who work in the City may qualify for all kinds of charities."

A desire to do their best for their children may leave parents vulnerable to bad advice about the talent a child shows, or the quality of instrument needed. "Quite often, children show up as gifted musically because they're not settled at school, or at home, and they take refuge in music. Then, they settle down and music resumes its rightful place," says Valerie Beale. "You can have children who are really very good at 12 or 14, and then terribly average at 16, but the parents never recover from the expense, particularly if they bought something overpriced."

Buying an instrument for a child may be a suitable reason for taking out a personal loan. Capital for a valuable instrument may also be raised through a mortgage on the family home. Some mortgages offer "drawn down" facilities, which let parents increase borrowing in stages to cover school fees. This type of mortgage could cover the cost of an instrument, but good financial advice is essential.

Rental and loan schemes let children try out an instrument, and parents to develop an appreciation of instrument quality, before buying. A new instrument may need to be "played in" before its quality can be evaluated.

Chappell of Bond Street offers three years' interest-free credit, or a rental scheme with an option to purchase, usually after three or six months. Rental already paid is deducted from the purchase price. A Yamaha French Horn, costing £2,200 to buy, can be rented for £270 a quarter.

The Benslow Music Trust operates a loan scheme that supplies talented youngsters with instruments — sometimes family heirlooms of great value. The Panormo violin, valued at £40,000, is on loan to the award-winning Min Jin Kim. Borrowers pay at least £50 a year to management costs and insurance. The trust, based in Hitchin, Hertfordshire, has only 200 to 250 instruments available.

Auction houses are another source of reasonably priced, good-quality instruments.

Once an instrument is bought, or hired, it is essential to make sure that adequate insurance is in place, either separately or under an existing home contents policy. Music shops may be able to do regular valuations. Domestic insurance policies may not be suitable. Most are index-linked, but an instrument's value may rise by more than the rate of inflation.

☐ *The Handbook of Music Awards & Scholarships* (£3 plus 50p P&P: Musicians' Benevolent Fund, London).
☐ *Educational Grants Directory* (£15.95 plus £2.50 P&P: Directory of Social Change, London).

INSTRUMENTS TO RENT OR BUY

Boosey & Hawkes has a "try before you buy" scheme, which allows you to hire an instrument for three months. Then, if you decide to buy, the hire charge is deducted from the cost of the instrument. It also operates part-exchange and easy payment schemes. In addition, B&H provides a reasonably-priced insurance package when you purchase, to cover loss, destruction or damage on a worldwide basis.

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French Horn — £839 *(£125)* — £1299 *(£195)*

Figures in italics show price for 3-month rental. Prices, which include VAT, are taken from "Try Before You Buy" current price list.

Kate Nettleton's £400 half-size cello was financed through borrowings after use of a music shop's rental scheme

Key costs of music lessons

Jacqui and Gavin Nettleton, who live in Brighton, typify many parents who did not realise the financial implications when their eldest daughter embarked on music lessons.

Kate started playing the cello when she was seven, and the piano a year later. Mrs Nettleton says: "When Kate came in and said, 'I want to play the cello,' I thought, 'That's nice.' I never considered the cost. I don't think you do. Most music colleges, which is where we're heading with all this, would expect you to study two instruments. Music lessons are costing us about £200 a term. We are quite lucky in East Sussex because there is a good music scheme and lessons are subsidised."

Kate, who is 11 in November, has a half-size cello which is worth about £400, and the family piano is worth around £800. Both instruments were financed through borrowings. Covering the cost of lessons requires careful budgeting. "For a good full-size cello you're talking about £3,000. That's second mortgage territory. A good cello isn't easy to find. You can't walk into a music shop and pick one up. As a parent you want your offspring to shine, so buying an inferior instrument isn't on."

There are numerous extras. "Keeping the piano tuned: that's £25 three times a year. Getting a bow restrung is another £30. Then there are exams and concerts. You also don't appreciate the problems involved in insuring it and transporting it."

The Nettletons started out with a rental scheme through a local music shop, trading up through successive instruments to their present position, helping to stagger costs.

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Please note that past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. All bonuses depend on profits earned in the CU Life Fund and are not guaranteed.
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(Source: *Money Management*, April 1994.)

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Nationwide to bring in charges for Link debits

Nationwide is to charge customers who make withdrawals from Link cash machines not owned by the society. After November 21, it will make a 60p charge for cash withdrawals from its instant access CashBuilder savings account via non-Nationwide machines.

Paul Atkinson of Nationwide said: "The 60p charge reflects the general costs associated with administering Link transactions. We are coming into line with our main competitors."

But Mark Christopher, marketing director at Save & Prosper, said: "The average cost of processing a cash machine transaction is 30p. Introducing these charges is a form of protectionism not in the customer's interest."

The Link network was set-up in 1986 and has 31 members, most of whom are building societies. It was formed to give societies the chance to compete on level terms with the burgeoning *cash machine network* being set up then by banks.

Halifax Building Society, which has 1,600 cash machines around the country, has charged its customers 60p for cash withdrawals made from non-Halifax cash machines ever since it joined the Link network in 1989. The Woolwich charges 40p for withdrawals made by Prime Gold account customers using a competitor's Link cash machine. *Abbey National, the former* building society, charges 60p for withdrawals from Instant Saver accounts when a non-Abbey machine is used.

The main high street banks belong to two cash machine networks. Lloyds, Barclays, Royal Bank of Scotland and Bank of Scotland belong to Four Bank. Angela Fellows of Lloyds said: "We have no plans to start charging customers from other banks within Four Bank for cash withdrawals. We want to continue to offer customers the widest possible availability."

Mint, the other bank cash machine network, covers NatWest, Midland, TSB, which is to join Link next year, Ulster, Isle of Man, Coutts & Co, Clydesdale and Northern and National Irish. Kevin Murray of NatWest said: "We do not charge for cash withdrawals within our network and have no plans to introduce them."

ROBERT MILLER

Annuities pay out less in early years when index-linked

If you plan to live on a fixed income in retirement, the last thing you want is for the value of your money to be eroded by inflation. Despite government assurances that low inflation is here to stay, many people still choose to index-link the income they get from annuities. But, according to Towry Law, the independent financial adviser, many people get a shock when they realise that opting for an annual increase in their income means they will be paid less in the early years.

Annuities are bought with a lump sum on retirement, usually from part of the proceeds of a pension fund. The insurance company which sells you the annuity guarantees to pay you an income for life. But, once you are locked in, the terms are fixed for life.

The insurer weights income levels to reflect the likely risk of having to pay you for perhaps 30 or 40 years. Younger people and women, who tend to live longer than men, will get lower rates. If you choose to have your income indexed, it will be several years before your income rises above the level it would have been had you opted for a level payment.

Those with a lump sum of £100,000 who decide against index-linking, you might get £11,070 a year as a 60-year-old man, and £9,500 as a 60-year-old woman. For 70-year-olds, the equivalent income would be £13,500 for a man and £10,880 for a woman. Those opting for indexation may have the choice of an annual rise of 3 per cent, 5 per cent or linked to the prevailing inflation rate. On the same basis as the above, a 60-year-old man with a £100,000 lump sum will initially receive £8,920, if his income is indexed to rise at 3 per cent a year, or £7,600 at 5 per cent. A 60-year-old woman will get £7,250 or £5,900.

Yet, many people will choose what they believe to be maximum protection from inflation — index-linking — says Graham Ashley, assistant director at Towry Law.

SARA McCONNELL

THE TIMES PENSION INDEX

Pension available per £10,000 of fund at retirement

	Worst £pa	Average £pa	% inc on worst	Best £pa	% inc on av	% inc on worst
Male aged 60						
Guaranteed 5 years	845.04	1028.78	17.86	1086.24	5.59	28.54
Male aged 65						
Guaranteed 5 years	963.96	1132.44	14.88	1189.58	5.04	23.40
Male aged 70						
Guaranteed 5 years	1101.00	1266.48	13.07	1327.00	4.78	20.53
Female aged 60						
Guaranteed 5 years	759.00	942.95	19.51	985.36	4.50	29.82
Female aged 65						
Guaranteed 5 years	845.00	1017.24	16.93	1063.56	4.5525.87	
Female aged 70						
Guaranteed 5 years	963.96	1120.68	13.98	1175.40	4.88	21 93
Male 65 & Female 63						
No guarantee	753.24	925.68	18.63	970.324 82		28.82

NB These figures apply to Money Purchase Company Pension Schemes (and with fractional difference to Personal Pension Plans), and not to those in Final Salary Schemes.
The average is the median. Once the "Open Market Option" is exercised you cannot surrender a pension annuity and it is intended as a long term investment. The rates quoted are subject to change. The pensions are quoted gross and are liable to income tax.
Source: Towry Law Pension Desk (0753 868244)

CGT ALLOWANCES FOR SEPTEMBER

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in July 1994.

Month purchased	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
January	-	0.755	0.670	0.590	0.507	0.450	0.404
February	-	0.748	0.663	0.577	0.501	0.444	0.398
March	0.825	0.745	0.658	0.562	0.499	0.441	0.393
April	0.789	0.720	0.636	0.530	0.485	0.425	0.371
May	0.776	0.713	0.630	0.523	0.482	0.423	0.365
June	0.772	0.709	0.626	0.520	0.483	0.423	0.360
July	0.771	0.700	0.627	0.523	0.487	0.424	0.359
August	0.770	0.692	0.612	0.519	0.482	0.420	0.344
September	0.772	0.685	0.609	0.519	0.475	0.416	0.338
October	0.763	0.679	0.599	0.517	0.473	0.409	0.324
November	0.754	0.673	0.594	0.512	0.460	0.402	0.318
December	0.757	0.669	0.596	0.510	0.456	0.404	0.315

Month purchased	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
January	0.306	0.213	0.114	0.069	0.051	0.026
February	0.297	0.206	0.108	0.064	0.045	0.020
March	0.291	0.194	0.104	0.061	0.041	0.018
April	0.269	0.159	0.089	0.045	0.031	0.006
May	0.261	0.149	0.086	0.041	0.028	0.002
June	0.256	0.144	0.081	0.041	0.028	0.002
July	0.255	0.144	0.084	0.045	0.031	0.007
August	0.252	0.132	0.081	0.044	0.026	0.002
September	0.244	0.121	0.077	0.040	0.022	-
October	0.234	0.113	0.073	0.036	0.023	-
November	0.224	0.115	0.069	0.038	0.024	-
December	0.221	0.116	0.069	0.042	0.022	-

The RI month for disposals by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 1985 for companies) is the month in which the allowable expenditure was incurred, or March 1982 where the expenditure was incurred before that month.

WHY INVEST IN A SUN ALLIANCE PEP?

60%*

GROWTH THAT'S WHY

SUN ALLIANCE
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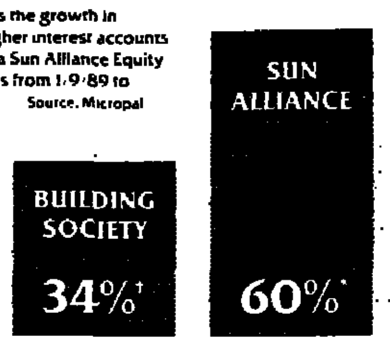
Of course, past performance is no indication of future returns and PEP investments can go down as well as up. But with building society interest rates at their present level, shouldn't you be checking out the alternatives?

But outstanding performance is not the only reason for choosing a PEP.

This table compares the growth in building society higher interest accounts with the growth in a Sun Alliance Equity Income PEP (5 years from 1/9/89 to 31/8/94) Source: Micropal



One of the main advantages of a PEP is that all growth on your savings is paid tax free. If you are not currently taking advantage of your PEP allowance, now is the time to do something about it. So why not consider a Sun Alliance Equity Income PEP which gives you all the advantages of saving with a PEP from a company you can trust? As one of Britain's oldest financial institutions, we invest over £10 billion for hundreds of thousands of investors. If you have a lump sum of between £1,000 and £6,000 to invest, and want the prospect of better returns, call our Customer Centre or complete the coupon below.

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Notes: †The building society growth is based on 7 day notice higher interest accounts, net of basic rate tax. (Source: Micropal)
*The Sun Alliance Equity Income PEP figures assume that current PEP tax-free benefits have been available throughout and are based on an offer to bid price, gross income reinvested (1/9/89 to 31/8/94). Capital invested in a building society cannot reduce in value. PEP investments can go down as well as up so you may not recover the full amount invested. PEPs are free of Income and Capital Gains Taxes but tax conditions are subject to change. Available only to people resident in the United Kingdom. Sun Alliance Unit Trust Management Limited is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and is a member of IMRO. The Registered Office is: 1 Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 2AB

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LOW 2% INITIAL CHARGE ON PEP*

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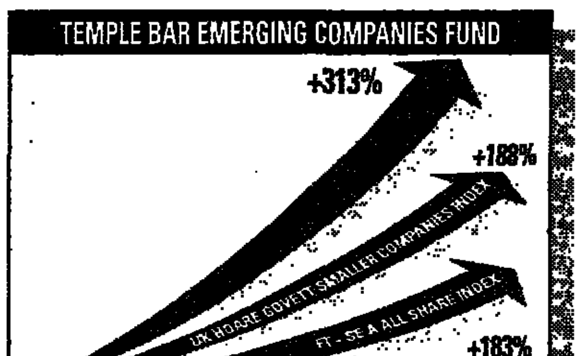
EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE

"Temple Bar Emerging Companies currently records one of the best cumulative 5 year performances for funds in the UK Smaller Companies sector"

Unit Trust Analysis Monthly Guide, July 1994


TEMPLE BAR EMERGING COMPANIES FUND
+313%
+188%
UK HOARE GOVETT SMALLER COMPANIES INDEX
FT - SE A ALL SHARE INDEX
+183%
28 SEPTEMBER 1984
30 SEPTEMBER 1994

The Temple Bar Emerging Companies Fund has a proven track record of performance. Over the past ten years the fund has significantly outperformed the Hoare Govett Smaller Companies Index and the FT-SE A All Share Index.

FIVE YEAR PERFORMANCE: 43.1%
Source: Datastream, offer to offer, no income reinvested to 30.9.94.

QUARTILE PERFORMANCE

Years	Temple Bar Emerging Companies Fund
1	1
2	1
3	1
4	1
5	1
6	1
7	1
8	1

*Quartile position within Micropal UK Smaller Companies sector. Offer to offer, net income reinvested to 3.10.94

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Investor Services Department, Guinness Flight Fund Managers Limited, 5 Gainsford Street, London SE1 2NE.
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Title ____ Initials ____ Name ____

Address ____

____ Postcode ____ 2348-94

* The following withdrawal charges are also applied: 3% in first year, 2% in second year and 1% in third year, thereafter free of charge. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. The value of this investment and the income arising from it may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. Also, deduction of charges and expenses means you may not get back the amount you invested. Issued by Guinness Flight Global Asset Management Limited, a member of IMRO and Lautro.

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 071 538 8800				
Balanced	447.50	473.60	- 6.80	...
UK Equity	555.10	587.50	-13.00	...
Property	492.20	520.90	+ 0.60	..
Fixed Interest	306.20	324.10	- 2.80	...
Money	250.00	264.60	...	..
International	376.60	398.60	- 3.30	..
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	284.90	299.90	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	519.80	547.20	...	...
Equity Fd Inc	160.20	168.70	- 4.20	0.0
-do- Acc	213.70	225.00	- 5.70	0.0
Selective Fd	476.90	502.10	- 3.60	0.0
Money Fd	375.60	395.40	+ 0.20	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	405.40	426.80	...	...
Equity Ser 4	207.30	218.30	- 4.20	...
Man Ser 4	651.40	685.70	-12.20	0.0
Conv Ser 4	327.0	344.30	+ 0.20	..
Money Ser 4	326.80	344.0	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	334.30	351.90	- 2.00	0.0
American Ser 4	464.90	489.40	-11.40	0.0
High Inc Ser 4	649.50	683.70	-11.50	0.0
Indexed Inv Ser 4	205.20	216.00	+ 0.10	0.0
Japan Ser 4	366.80	386.20	- 8.10	0.0
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£14.76	£15.54	-24.20	...
European Fd Acc	360.10	379.00	- 6.80	...
Fixed Int Acc	485.30	[illegible]	- 3.10	...
Gtd Money Acc	332.60	350.10	+ 0.40	...
Intl Managed Acc	597.00	628.40	-14.00	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	307.70	323.90	- 2.30	...
Japan Fund	299.60	315.30	- 5.50	...
N American Acc	302.50	318.40	- 8.10	...
Prop Fd Acc	445.50	468.80	- 0.50	...
Multiple Inv Acc	£10.05	£10.58	-15.70	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	370.90	390.50	+ 0.20	...
Equity Acc	£13.69	£14.41	-28.80	..
Property Acc	571.80	601.90	+ 0.20	...
Far East Acc	332.00	349.50	- 7.00	..
Managed Capital	520.10	547.50	-10.30	...
-do- Acc	£10.56	£11.12	-20.60	...
Overseas Acc	897.80	945.10	-17.10	...
Gilt Edged Acc	467.20	491.80	- 1.80	...
Amer Equity Acc	724.70	762.90	-15.00	...
Amer Man Acc	309.70	326.00	- 6.40	...
Amer Prop Acc	111.90	117.80	- 2.70	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 0494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	152.90	160.90	+ 0.20	...
Balncd Ser 6	684.60	720.60	-12.90	...
Opportunity Ser 6	155.00	163.10	- 3.50	...
Distribution Ser 6	96.70	101.70	- 0.30	7.08
UK Equities Ser 6	928.20	977.00	-19.90	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	994.80	£10.47	-20.40	...
North Amer Ser 6	416.00	437.80	-13.20	...
Far East Ser 6	580.20	610.70	-20.70	...
Europe Ser 6	349.20	367.50	-10.60	...
Intnl Ser 6	542.80	571.30	-16.20	...
Property Ser 6	564.40	594.10	+ 0.90	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	411.60	433.20	+ 0.90	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	175.10	184.30	- 0.10	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	294.80	310.30	+ 0.30	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 081 534 5544				
Equity Acc	802.90	845.20	-14.30	...
-do- Initial	533.50	561.60	- 9.50	...
Gilt Edged Acc	366.20	385.50	- 1.60	...
-do- Initial	245.40	258.40	- 1.10	...
International Acc	396.90	417.80	- 6.50	...
-do- Initial	264.30	278.30	- 4.30	...
Managed Acc	506.80	533.50	- 7.40	...
-do- Initial	338.70	356.60	- 4.90	...
Money Acc	289.50	304.80	+ 0.20	...
Property Acc	304.20	320.30	+ 0.30	...
-do- Initial	201.60	212.30	...	...
America Acc	262.90	276.80	- 6.00	...
Australia Acc	207.80	218.80	- 3.00	...
Financial Acc	310.90	327.30	- 5.60	...
500 Accum	427.20	449.70	- 2.80	...
Japan Genl Acc	368.10	387.50	- 6.20	...
Income Acc	497.00	523.30	- 8.10	...
Leisure Acc	219.00	230.60	- 2.60	...
Special Sits Acc	222.90	234.70	- 3.50	...
Univ Tech Acc	155.90	164.20	- 2.00	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834000				
The Managed Fd	783.64	783.64	-12.22	...
Income Fund	742.28	781.35	-10.77	...
Extra Income	674.01	709.49	- 9.36	...
Worldwide Gth	490.98	516.83	- 4.36	...
Balanced Fund	643.01	676.86	- 8.31	..
Smllr Cos Recov	663.48	698.40	+ 2.48	...
N Amer & Genrl	337.73	355.51	- 7.61	...
Pacific Basin	438.49	461.57	- 3.94	...
German Growth	230.30	242.43	- 3.42	...
Japan Growth	193.32	203.50	- 1.25	...
The UK Gth Fd	203.71	214.44	- 2.43	...
Contl Euro Gth	127.71	134.44	- 0.48	...
Property Fund	403.88	425.14	+ 0.32	...
Fixed Interest	294.08	309.56	- 0.03	...
Cash Fund	281.77	296.60	+ 0.16	...
Managed Inv	475.31	500.22	- 7.86	...
Nth Amer Recov	225.92	237.82	- 5.71	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	496.32	522.45	- 0.81	...
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 32, Greenock, Renfrewshire 0475 888000				
Measured Perf	157.20	166.30	- 0.30	...
Performance Plus	158.80	168.00	- 2.60	...
With Profit Perf	170.90	180.80	+ 0.10	...
UK Opportunity	168.50	178.30	- 3.80	...
Euro Opportunity	216.90	229.50	- 1.30	...
North Amer Opp	155.00	164.00	- 3.00	...
Far East Opp	194.20	205.50	- 4.00	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	133.60	140.60	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	186.10	196.90	- 0.10	...
Fixed Int	179.50	189.90	- 0.60	...
Cash	155.70	164.70	...	...
Overseas	183.00	193.60	- 3.00	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	324.50	341.60	- 4.80	...
UK Equity	535.30	563.50	-10.00	...
Property	297.50	313.20	...	...
Money Market	251.00	264.30	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	296.90	312.60	+ 5.90	...
Japan	396.10	417.00	- 6.00	...
North America	142.10	149.60	- 3.40	...
International	293.10	308.60	- 3.10	...
European	277.80	292.50	- 2.80	...
Far East	138.10	145.40	- 3.20	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 51122				
Equity Growth	£271.20	...	...	...
Managed	316.10	332.80	- 3.80	...
Property	238.80	251.40	...	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	231.60	243.80	- 1.20	...
Equity	348.20	366.60	- 4.60	...
Cash	216.00	227.40	...	...
CLife Euro Mgd	362.90	382.10	- 4.40	...
CLife Intl Fd	347.70	366.00	- 7.40	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101				
Property Fund	179.30	188.70	...	...
Managed Fund	580.60	611.20	-12.30	...
Equity Fund	331.40	348.90	- 8.70	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	278.00	292.70	- 4.30	...
Ruby	171.60	180.70	- 2.80	...
Emerald	140.20	147.60	- 0.70	...
Equity	312.00	328.50	- 4.70	...
Property	234.00	246.40	+ 0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	192.30	202.50	- 2.30	...
Indexed Secs	161.70	170.30	- 0.30	...
Cash	186.20	196.00	+ 0.10	...
Nth American	211.30	222.50	- 3.40	...
Far East	325.30	342.50	-10.00	...
International	236.40	248.90	- 4.50	...
Special Sits	319.70	336.60	- 2.00	...
Intl Income	280.00	294.80	- 4.90	...
American Inc	181.90	191.50	- 4.40	...
European	306.40	322.60	- 5.40	...
Japanese	149.60	157.50	- 1.80	...
SE Asia	360.10	379.10	-11.40	...
With Profits Reg	163.20	171.80	- 0.20	...
-do- Spec	163.20	171.80	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	308.70	325.00	- 7.30	...
Equity	359.10	378.10	-11.10	...
Property	214.20	225.50	+ 0.30	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	239.70	252.40	- 2.30	...
Index Linked	171.40	180.50	+ 0.10	...
Cash	248.70	261.80	...	...
Nth American	251.20	264.50	- 4.40	...
Far East Acc	329.90	347.30	- 8.00	...
International Acc	299.00	314.80	- 6.00	...
Special Sits	459.00	483.20	- 7.00	...
European Flex	425.10	447.50	- 6.70	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 0634 890 000				
(Units):Key	£211.63	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker	£303.49	...	...	...
-do- Cash	202.54	213.20	+ 0.11	...
-do- Equity	526.56	554.27	+ 9.82	...
-do- Fxd Int	345.01	363.17	+ 7.24	...
-do- Managed	375.94	395.73	+ 6.60	...
-do- Property	313.69	330.20	- 0.62	...
(Pens): Cash Cap	207.80	218.75	+ 0.04	...
-do- Cash Inv	302.88	318.84	+ 0.28	...
-do- Equity Cap	£13.73	£14.45	-10.60	...
-do- Equity Inv	£20.01	£21.07	-14.02	...
-do- Fixed Cap	374.13	393.83	+ 2.16	...
-do- Fixed Inv	545.31	574.02	+ 3.53	...
-do- Index Cap	194.86	205.13	+ 0.70	...
-do- Index Inv	284.02	298.98	- 1.22	...
Mngd Cap	546.29	575.05	- 3.05	...
Mngd Inv	796.24	838.15	- 3.89	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	£674.14	...	- 5.85	...
Var Ann (5)	£89.11	...	- 0.51	...
Prime: Managed	388.30	408.80	- 8.30	...
Prime: UK Equity	463.00	487.40	-11.30	...
Prime: Int Equity	300.30	316.20	- 7.20	...
Prime: Property	254.10	267.50	...	...
Prime: Fxd Int	222.90	234.70	- 1.00	...
Prime: Index-Lnk	164.00	172.70	- 0.10	...
Prime: Cash	204.30	215.10	+ 0.20	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744840				
Managed Fund	£11.11	£11.69	- 2.60	0.0
Equity Fund	£15.89	£16.73	+ 5.90	...
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 0483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	578.80	609.20	- 9.80	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	355.40	374.10	- 1.30	...
Life Equity Acc	796.50	838.40	-14.60	...
Life Money Acc	300.00	315.70	+ 0.20	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	802.80	845.00	-11.50	...
Life Intl Acc	496.00	522.10	- 9.40	...
Life High Inc Acc	766.80	807.10	-12.20	...
Life Property Acc	269.60	283.70	+ 0.30	...
Crown Brit Inv A	£13.89	...	...	...
Brewin Equity	665.90	700.90	- 8.70	...
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	174.60	183.80	+ 0.10	...
Blue Chip Fund	234.00	246.40	- 4.80	...
-do- Series 2	152.80	160.90	- 3.10	...
Adventurous Fd	190.20	200.80	- 6.80	...
-do- Series 2	145.60	153.30	- 5.20	...
Performance Fd	239.60	252.30	- 6.10	...
-do- Series 2	158.00	166.40	- 4.00	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	136.00	143.20	- 0.70	...
UK Equity Fund	154.60	162.80	- 2.90	...
Property Fund	124.70	131.30	+ 0.10	...
Envmntml Opps	156.00	164.30	- 1.70	...
Euro Fund	184.10	193.80	- 2.70	..
North Amer Fd	178.30	187.70	- 4.60	...
Oriental Ops	242.10	254.90	- 5.50	...
Japanese Fund	133.80	140.90	- 2.60	...
Bd & West Life	123.00	129.50	+ 0.10	...
Bd & West Pen	138.10	145.40	+ 0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	251.40	260.50	- 4.50	3.51
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 0722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	296.40	312.00	- 5.30	...
UK Equity	386.80	407.20	- 8.40	...
Stewardship	332.80	350.40	- 1.50	...
Overseas Equity	279.10	293.80	- 5.00	...
North American	140.60	148.00	- 3.90	...
Pacific Basin	166.80	175.60	- 2.70	...
European	208.50	219.50	- 2.80	...
Property	208.80	219.80	...	...
Fixed Interest	220.70	232.40	- 0.80	...
Index Linked	161.80	170.40	- 0.30	...
Cash	199.50	210.10	+ 0.10	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Equity	140.70	148.10	- 2.50	...
Fixed Interest	514.10	541.10	+ 1.80	...
Managed	679.60	715.30	- 9.70	...
Deposit	340.60	358.50	+ 0.40	...
Property	477.80	502.90	+ 0.60	...
American	386.70	407.00	- 8.60	...
Australian	512.40	539.30	- 5.70	...
European	516.90	544.10	-10.50	...
Income Acc	731.00	769.40	-11.00	...
-do- Dist	433.60	456.50	- 8.60	3.94
International	310.50	326.80	- 6.10	...
Japan Smaller	567.00	596.80	- 8.70	...
Singapore & Mal	408.40	429.80	-12.00	...
Smaller Cos	414.50	436.30	+15.40	...
Tokyo Fund	725.00	763.10	-12.20	...
UK Equity	559.50	588.90	-11.60	...
CCM Vangd Mg	728.70	767.00	- 9.20	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 071 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	363.50	382.70	-10.40	...
GT Plan Wwide	514.00	541.10	-11.70	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982				
Managed	204.30	215.00	- 3.40	...
Unitised Profit	135.30	142.20	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	268.10	282.10	- 5.20	...
Fixed Int	183.90	193.50	- 1.60	...
Index-Linked	158.70	166.90	- 0.20	...
Cash Deposit	173.60	182.60	+ 0.10	...
Property	188.20	198.00	+ 2.20	...
International	173.70	182.70	- 2.80	...
American	150.60	158.30	- 3.40	...
Japan	259.20	272.70	- 3.90	...
Japan Smllr Cos	265.40	279.30	- 4.00	...
European	173.90	182.90	- 4.60	...
Pacific Fund	307.80	323.90	- 4.40	...
Conv Life	123.00	129.40	- 1.00	...
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE Gen Portfolio House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	669.20	669.20	-11.30	...
-do- Inv A	669.10	704.40	-12.00	...
UK Equity	389.00	409.60	- 6.90	...
Gilt Plus	193.50	203.80	- 1.60	...
Managed	296.10	311.80	- 5.20	...
Inter Man	266.10	280.20	- 4.70	...
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 071 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	797.20	830.40	...	...
Managed Initial	450.20	473.90	-10.90	...
-do- Acc	640.20	673.90	-15.20	...
Equity Initial	652.60	687.00	-17.40	...
-do- Acc	928.10	976.90	-24.40	...
Fixed Int Initial	421.40	443.60	- 2.60	...
-do- Acc	599.30	630.80	- 3.40	...
Intl Initial	456.70	480.80	- 9.40	...
-do- Acc	649.50	683.70	-13.10	...
Nth Amer Initial	161.80	170.30	- 4.90	...
-do- Acc	209.40	220.40	- 6.20	...
Pacific Initial	251.50	264.80	- 4.30	...
-do- Acc	322.50	339.50	- 5.30	...
Property Initial	178.70	188.20	...	...
-do- Acc	253.80	267.20	...	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	152.40	160.40	- 0.40	...
-do- Acc	197.20	207.60	- 0.40	...
Deposit Initial	196.80	207.10	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	279.80	294.60	+ 0.40	...
Euro Initial	101.40	106.80	- 4.20	...
-do- Acc	121.30	127.70	- 4.10	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 200939				
Managed	164.10	172.70	- 2.10	...
-do- Pens	200.00	210.50	- 3.30	...
UK Equity	163.90	172.50	- 2.50	...
-do- Pens	185.40	195.10	- 3.60	...
International	145.40	153.00	- 1.40	...
-do- Pens	158.10	166.40	- 1.50	...
Deposit	139.30	146.60	...	...
-do- Pens	164.60	173.20	+ 0.10	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 071 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	347.30	369.50	- 5.40	...
North America	325.70	346.50	- 9.00	...
Far East Fund	677.00	720.30	-15.60	...
Global Managed	465.40	495.20	- 6.80	...
Deposit Fund	228.40	240.50	+ 0.10	...
Prima Residential	134.10	141.20	...	...
European Fund	254.10	270.40	- 3.20	...
Fixed Interest	61.10	65.00	- 0.90	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
Security Fund	492.70	521.40	- 5.80	...
British Fund	499.90	529.00	- 7.50	...
International	525.80	556.50	-10.70	...
Dollar Fund	352.70	373.30	- 9.00	...
Capital Fund	457.00	483.60	- 9.50	...
Income Fund	651.30	689.30	- 9.00	...
Property Series A	462.70	489.70	...	4.80
Property Units	762.00	800.10	...	...
Financial Fund	545.80	577.60	- 7.80	...
Managed Ser A	517.70	547.90	- 8.80	...
Managed Units	926.00	974.80	-15.60	...
High Yield Fund	616.50	652.40	-11.10	...
Money Series A	287.20	304.00	+ 0.20	...
Money Units	380.10	400.20	+ 0.40	...
Equity Fund	587.60	621.80	-11.70	...
Fixed Interest	341.40	361.30	- 2.50	...
Indexed Secs	178.70	189.20	- 0.30	...
European Fund	696.70	737.30	-14.60	...
Natural Res	312.60	330.80	+ 0.10	...
Far East Fund	675.50	714.90	-11.00	...
Smaller Cos	470.20	497.60	- 0.40	...
Special Sits	421.00	445.60	- 4.60	...
Man Currency	258.30	273.40	- 1.70	...
Japanese Tech	302.30	319.90	- 2.70	...
US Smaller Cos	214.00	226.50	- 6.80	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 0727 42081				
Global Managed	548.00	576.80	- 7.40	...
Global Property	288.90	304.10	...	...
Global Fixed Int	489.80	515.60	- 1.90	...
Global Equity	584.30	615.00	- 8.60	...
Global Cash	212.50	223.70	+ 0.10	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 0452 371371				
Gtd Mgd	467.80	492.40	- 2.10	...
Property	484.10	509.50	+ 0.30	...
Managed	402.20	423.30	- 7.90	...
American	372.40	392.00	-11.00	...
UK Equity Fd	428.90	451.40	- 9.70	...
Japan	219.10	230.60	- 5.20	...
Index-Lkd	177.40	186.70	+ 0.10	...
High Yield	815.90	858.80	-12.40	...
Growth Cap	413.90	435.60	- 2.00	...
Money	401.40	422.50	+ 0.30	...
International	388.90	409.30	- 8.60	...
Henderson Active	217.60	229.00	- 2.10	...
Perpetual Active	324.90	342.00	- 6.60	...
Growth Cap	413.90	435.60	- 2.00	...
-do- Acc	628.70	661.70	-11.80	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 0273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Ink	135.10	142.30	...	...
-do- Acc	185.80	195.60	+ 0.10	...
Britz Opps Int	137.50	144.80	- 1.90	...
-do- Acc	169.80	178.80	- 2.40	...
Cash Initial	167.20	176.00	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	286.40	301.50	+ 0.20	...
Equity Initial	625.70	658.70	-12.50	...
-do- Acc	£10.71	£11.28	-21.30	...
Fixed Initial	327.90	345.20	- 2.50	...
-do- Acc	561.60	591.20	- 4.30	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	129.30	136.20	- 0.10	...
-do- Acc	189.00	199.00	- 0.10	...
Intl Initial	340.60	358.60	- 9.80	...
-do- Acc	574.40	604.70	-16.50	...
Managed Initial	466.30	490.90	- 8.90	...
-do- Acc	798.60	840.70	-15.50	...
Property Initial	216.60	228.00	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	371.10	390.70	+ 0.50	...
LINCOLN NATIONAL 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876				
Equity Units	£125.12	...	- 3.17	...
Property Units	£227.19	...	...	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£62.10	£65.37	- 1.16	...
2nd Equity Acc	613.90	646.10	-16.90	...
2nd High Inc Ac	592.40	623.60	- 9.90	...
2nd Property Acc	247.90	261.00	...	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	176.10	185.40	- 1.30	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	456.60	480.60	- 7.70	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	229.00	241.10	- 3.70	...
2nd Deposit Acc	279.50	294.20	+ 0.40	...
2nd Gilt Acc	290.30	305.60	- 0.60	...
2nd Amer Acc	622.40	655.20	-14.40	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	256.90	270.40	- 1.00	...
2nd Index Acc	201.50	212.20	+ 0.40	...
2nd Far East Acc	459.80	484.00	- 9.00	...
2nd Global Acc	172.40	181.40	- 2.30	...
2nd Euro Acc	162.60	171.10	- 2.30	...
2nd Japan Acc	204.10	214.80	- 2.10	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	159.60	168.00	- 1.00	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	125.80	132.40	- 1.10	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA 0272 279179				
Equity	£877.60	...	-13.30	...
Fixed Interest	£400.70	...	- 1.40	...
Property	£403.20	...	+ 0.90	...
Deposit	£291.00	...	+ 0.10	...
Mixed	£581.30	...	- 7.20	...
Indexed Stock	£205.20	...	+ 0.10	...
International	£287.50	...	- 4.40	...
Equity A	£203.70	...	- 3.10	...
Fixed Int A	£177.80	...	- 0.70	...
Property A	£177.30	...	+ 0.40	...
Deposit A	£171.10	...	+ 0.10	...
Mixed A	£191.10	...	- 3.40	...
Index Stock A	£160.70	...	...	...
International A	£179.70	...	- 2.70	...
Equity P	£721.10	...	-14.70	...
Fixed Int P	£526.20	...	- 1.60	...
Property P	£331.80	...	+ 0.60	...
Deposit P	£341.70	...	+ 0.30	...
Mixed P	£534.00	...	- 8.50	...
Index Stock P	£234.90	...	+ 0.10	...
International P	£334.60	...	- 6.00	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 283456				
Inv Trust Cap	£596.90	...	- 6.90	...
-do- Acc	£993.80	...	-10.70	...
Property Cap	£152.30	...	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc	£244.10	...	+ 1.90	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£187.90	...	- 0.90	...
-do- Acc	£300.80	...	- 1.10	...
Equity Cap	£309.00	...	- 3.80	...
-do- Acc	£504.40	...	- 5.80	...
Internatl Cap	£234.00	...	- 3.90	...
-do- Acc	£378.50	...	- 5.90	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£165.80	...	- 0.10	...
-do- Acc	£263.80	...	+ 0.10	...
Flexible Cap	£337.20	...	- 3.80	...
-do- Acc	£549.00	...	- 5.70	...
Moneymaker Fd	£623.80	...	- 4.40	...
Capital Growth	£16.40	...	-19.60	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 0245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	394.00	413.80	-12.60	...
Amer Rec Bond	450.00	472.60	-18.30	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	223.40	234.70	- 5.70	...
Australasia Bd	231.80	243.60	- 1.80	...
Commodity Bond	333.80	350.60	- 3.20	...
Deposit Bond Acc	359.80	377.90	+ 0.30	...
Equity Bond Acc	£14.90	£15.65	-11.70	...
European Bd Acc	380.00	399.10	- 7.10	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	717.70	753.70	-15.10	...
Far East Bd Acc	321.70	337.90	- 9.70	...
Gilt Bond Acc	420.30	441.40	- 2.80	...
Gold Bond Acc	184.40	193.70	+ 4.90	...
High Yield Bond	329.90	346.50	- 5.40	...
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	200.80	210.90	- 0.10	...
International Bd	770.70	809.40	-18.00	...
Japan Bond Acc	289.70	304.30	- 5.00	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	288.60	303.10	- 6.40	...
Managed Bonds	871.70	915.40	- 8.00	...
Prop Bond Acc	328.90	345.40	- 0.60	...
Rec Bond Acc	746.80	784.20	- 6.60	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631				
UK Equity	217.00	228.50	- 4.60	...
UK Equity Acc	304.80	320.90	- 6.30	...
Special Sits	89.90	94.70	- 0.30	...
Special Sits Acc	126.30	133.00	- 0.30	...
North American	166.80	175.60	- 5.10	...
N American Acc	234.30	246.70	- 6.90	...
Pacific Basin	372.50	392.20	- 8.30	...
Pacific Basin Acc	523.30	550.90	-11.30	...
Fixed Interest	269.80	284.00	- 0.40	...
Fixed Interest Acc	379.40	399.40	- 0.50	...
Property	176.50	185.80	- 0.10	...
Property Acc	248.30	261.40	+ 0.10	...
Deposit	152.00	160.00	...	...
Deposit Acc	214.10	225.40	+ 0.10	...
Managed	251.20	264.50	- 4.90	...
Managed Acc	325.30	342.50	- 6.10	...
MANULIFE GROUP St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	687.60	723.80	-11.10	...
Property Fund	544.20	572.80	+ 1.40	...
Equity Fund	865.60	911.20	-19.30	...
Gilt Edged Fd	583.50	614.20	- 4.40	...
Deposit Fund	329.60	346.90	+ 0.20	...
Investment Fd	367.90	385.90	- 7.30	...
International	535.70	563.90	-10.90	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead Bristol BS1 2NH 0272 266 366				
Property	453.60	477.40	- 0.30	...
UK Equity	337.80	355.50	- 4.90	...
Gilt Edged	553.90	583.00	- 1.70	...
Interest Fund	384.10	404.30	+ 0.20	...
UK Fund	485.90	511.40	+ 0.20	...
Intl Equity	616.20	648.60	-10.10	...
Intl Managed	574.40	604.60	- 6.50	...
North American	205.50	216.30	- 4.70	...
Far East	485.60	511.10	- 9.20	...
Intl Currency	256.50	270.00	- 0.20	...
For NM Life see Friends Provident				
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200				
Managed	469.30	493.90	- 8.60	...
UK Equity	575.90	606.20	-11.40	...
Overseas Equity	475.00	500.00	-11.40	...
Americas	382.00	402.10	-11.20	...
Far East	571.70	601.70	-11.50	...
Property	221.80	233.40	...	...
Fixed Interest	365.70	384.90	- 2.10	...
Indexed Gilt	223.30	235.00	- 0.30	...
Deposit	215.60	226.90	+ 0.10	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 140, Norwich NR1 1PP 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	£13.73	£14.45	-25.10	...
Eqty Fund	£29.73	£31.30	-60.40	...
Property Fd	579.40	609.90	- 1.30	...
Fixed Int Fd	562.00	591.60	- 3.90	...
Deposit Fund	347.10	365.40	+ 0.20	...
Intl Fund	236.80	249.40	- 4.60	...
PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 0733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	165.80	174.50	- 0.40	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	333.50	351.00	- 0.90	...
Inv Equity	£11.33	£11.93	-28.70	...
Inv Managed	813.20	856.00	-11.90	...
Ret Managed	916.80	965.10	-19.60	...
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	271.10	286.00	-12.30	...
Fxd Interest Acc	230.80	243.50	- 1.90	...
International Acc	260.20	274.50	- 4.50	...
Managed Acc	221.30	235.50	- 3.40	...
Property Acc	233.90	246.80	- 0.10	...
Money Acc	153.30	161.80	+ 0.10	...
Spec Mkt Acc	238.00	251.10	- 1.90	...
Japan Equity Acc	128.80	135.90	- 1.80	...
N Amer Acc	151.10	159.40	- 4.10	...
Pacific Acc	168.80	178.10	- 4.80	...
European Acc	190.80	201.30	- 3.20	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL Walsworth Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP 0438 739000				
Managed Ord	461.70	486.00	- 9.70	...
Managed Initial	312.60	329.10	- 6.70	...
Equity Ord	685.90	722.00	-17.90	...
Equity Init	464.30	488.70	-12.00	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	193.50	203.70	- 0.20	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	136.80	144.00	- 0.30	...
Oseas Equity Ord	376.90	396.70	- 8.00	...
Oseas Equity Init	255.20	268.60	- 5.60	...
Property Ord	282.70	297.60	+ 0.30	...
Property Init	191.40	201.50	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Int Ord	267.00	281.10	- 2.10	...
Fixed Int Init	180.80	190.30	- 1.50	...
Deposit Ord	205.70	216.50	+ 0.10	...
Deposit Initial	139.30	146.60	...	...
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 071 405 9222				
Managed	328.10	341.80	+ 3.70	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 071 548 3278				
Managed Fund	765.10	805.40	-15.50	...
Equity Fund	£14.10	£14.85	-31.30	...
Intl Fund	608.30	640.40	-13.90	...
Fixed Interest	539.70	568.20	- 3.00	...
Property Fund	470.30	494.90	...	...
Cash Fund	363.50	382.70	+ 0.20	...
Pacific Basin	370.10	389.60	- 7.30	...
N American Fd	225.50	237.40	- 8.90	...
Euro Fund	256.20	269.70	- 7.10	...
Balanced Fund	149.30	157.20	- 3.10	...
Strategic Fund	157.30	165.60	- 3.90	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000				
Mult Grow (45)	£719.70	...	...	...
-do- Acc	436.50	459.40	...	...
Op Prop	501.70	528.20	- 0.10	...
Op Equity	876.90	923.10	-21.30	...
Op High Yield	553.30	582.50	- 2.90	...
Op Managed	776.30	817.20	-11.30	...
Op Deposit	391.00	411.60	+ 0.40	...
Inc Gth	289.80	305.10	- 4.10	...
Japan Smlr	287.50	302.70	- 3.90	...
Managed Gth	251.80	265.10	- 5.20	...
Gilt	75.90	79.90	...	...
British	345.30	363.50	- 8.40	...
Global Bond	104.50	110.00	- 2.30	...
Global (35.34)	162.10	170.70	- 4.00	...
Gold Share	101.30	106.70	+ 0.10	...
High Income	289.30	304.60	- 2.30	...
Income	417.30	439.30	- 5.90	...
Japan	435.20	458.20	- 6.40	...
UK Smlr Cos	326.60	343.80	- 1.50	...
Mngd Growth	434.70	457.60	- 6.20	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051 239 3800				
Royal Shield Fd	946.00	£10.01	-14.90	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	375.90	395.60	- 5.90	...
Equity Fund	518.20	545.40	-10.90	...
Property Fund	341.40	359.30	+ 2.20	...
International	472.20	497.00	-10.30	...
Pacific Basin	287.30	302.40	- 8.40	...
United States	237.90	250.40	- 5.40	...
Gilt Fund	347.80	366.20	- 1.50	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	744.90	788.30	- 5.10	2.47
Deposit Fund (2)	369.40	390.90	+ 0.20	5.73
Gilt Fund	498.20	527.30	- 1.30	8.47
Global Equity Fd	235.70	249.50	- 2.60	...
Property Fund (45)	106.00	112.20	+ 0.10	6.67
AG Bond Fund	155.90	165.00	- 1.40	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 041 248 2323				
Equity	568.50	598.50	- 8.60	...
Fixed Interest	354.80	373.50	- 1.90	...
Index-Linked	189.50	199.50	- 0.30	...
International	458.30	482.50	-10.50	...
Property	295.20	310.80	+ 0.30	...
Cash	229.00	241.10	- 0.10	...
Managed	458.80	483.00	- 6.20	...
Cap Greed Bd	108.50	114.30	- 2.00	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 556 9181				
Cash	180.62	190.12	+ 0.08	...
Index-Linked	155.50	163.70	...	...
Fixed Interest	165.60	174.30	- 1.50	...
Mixed	247.90	260.90	- 4.10	...
UK Equity	230.90	243.00	- 5.30	...
International	258.50	272.10	- 4.30	...
American	237.50	250.00	- 4.90	...
Japan	241.30	254.00	- 2.30	...
European	252.40	265.70	- 5.90	...
Pacific	381.40	401.50	- 3.60	...
Technology	349.30	367.60	- 5.70	...
Currney/Currncy	217.60	229.10	- 2.20	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 031 225 2211				
Property	222.90	234.70	+ 0.10	...
UK Equity	340.30	358.30	- 7.10	...
American	234.90	247.40	- 6.00	...
Pacific	362.90	382.10	-10.00	...
European	460.90	485.20	-12.40	...
International	303.30	319.40	- 7.70	...
Fixed Interest	225.70	237.60	- 2.50	...
Index Linked	188.30	198.30	- 0.20	...
Deposit	193.40	203.70	+ 0.20	...
Managed	277.80	292.40	- 5.40	...
Worldwide	120.10	126.50	- 2.70	...
Pen Worldwide	127.40	134.20	- 3.30	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	£16.26	£16.76	-12.20	...
Safety Fund	224.60	236.50	- 3.10	...
Growth Fund	222.10	233.80	- 4.80	...
Opportunity Fd	218.40	229.90	- 4.60	...
Cash Fund	173.90	183.10	+ 0.10	...
European Fund	331.10	348.60	-12.00	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	190.80	200.90	- 3.40	...
Index-Linked Fd	175.00	184.30	- 0.50	...
International Fd	280.30	295.10	- 8.00	...
North American	221.90	233.60	- 7.10	...
Property Fund	133.90	141.00	- 0.10	...
UK Equity	235.80	248.30	- 5.40	...
UK Smaller	225.30	237.10	- 1.20	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 556 9181				
Mixed	259.50	273.20	- 4.10	...
Equity	267.50	281.70	- 4.10	...
International	283.10	298.10	- 4.20	...
Property	232.20	244.50	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	205.60	216.50	- 0.70	...
Index Linked	173.60	182.80	- 0.30	...
Cash	186.20	196.10	+ 0.10	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	784.00	834.10	- 8.60	...
Cash Fund	338.40	356.60	...	...
Property Fund	290.80	306.50	...	...
Equity Fund	917.90	976.50	-14.40	...
Fxd Interest Fund	438.50	462.10	...	...
International	414.10	440.60	- 7.10	...
High Income	680.40	723.90	- 9.40	...
Far East	627.70	667.80	- 8.80	...
North American	515.90	548.90	-12.20	...
Special Sits	616.10	655.50	- 3.30	...
Technology	519.80	553.00	- 5.70	...
Extra Income Fd	367.40	390.90	- 2.30	...
Gilt Fund	462.10	491.70	- 1.70	...
European	146.30	155.70	- 3.90	...
Adventurous Mg	216.60	228.10	- 4.00	...
Secure Mgd	142.70	151.90	- 1.10	...
Equity Inc Dist	115.70	122.00	- 1.10	4.82
North American	108.40	114.30	- 1.10	3.25
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	926.70	926.70	+11.20	...
Inv Pol 2	842.40	886.80	-10.60	...
Inv Pol 3	805.60	848.10	+10.10	...
Inv Cash	313.00	329.60	+ 0.50	...
Mixed Fund	438.00	461.30	- 8.60	...
Equity Fund	510.70	537.70	- 5.60	...
Property Fund	246.60	259.70	+ 0.20	...
International Fd	492.10	518.10	-11.60	...
Fixed Interest Fd	358.40	377.30	- 2.10	...
Indexed Stock Fd	190.30	200.40	+ 0.10	...
Cash Fund	227.10	239.10	+ 0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 0703 334411				
Managed Acc	371.20	390.70	- 1.60	...
Equity Acc	435.70	458.60	- 1.60	...
International Acc	342.30	360.30	- 3.80	...
Property	233.70	246.00	+ 0.20	...
Royal Trust Mg	234.10	246.40	- 1.00	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031 225 2552				
Cash	267.70	281.80	+ 0.20	...
Equity	967.80	£10.18	-21.20	...
European	166.30	175.10	- 4.70	...
Far East	173.30	182.50	- 3.70	...
Fixed Interest	378.30	398.30	- 2.70	...
Index Linked	201.30	211.90	- 0.20	...
International	608.90	641.00	-14.70	...
Managed	683.70	719.70	-14.20	...
Nth American	137.10	144.40	- 3.20	...
Property	363.90	383.10	+ 1.30	...
Pensions				
Cash	416.10	438.10	+ 0.30	...
Equity	£13.81	£14.54	-33.60	...
European	195.70	206.10	- 6.90	...
Far East	138.40	145.70	- 3.60	...
Fixed Interest	519.50	546.90	- 3.60	...
Index Linked	279.40	294.20	- 0.20	...
International	848.40	893.10	-25.40	...
Managed	953.10	£10.03	-22.50	...
Nth American	167.90	176.80	- 5.10	...
Property	494.50	520.60	+ 0.70	...
Stock Exchange	214.10	225.40	- 5.40	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 0403 232323				
Managed Fund	637.70	671.30	-10.10	...
Equity Fund	826.70	870.30	-14.70	...
Fixed Interest Fd	394.30	415.10	- 3.30	...
Index-Linked Fd	306.10	322.30	- 0.40	...
Property Fund	527.50	555.30	+ 0.40	...
International Fd	612.80	645.10	-11.30	...
N American Fd	221.40	233.10	- 6.20	...
Far East Fund	235.70	248.20	- 5.40	...
Deposit Fund	295.40	311.00	+ 0.20	...
International Bd	£65.19	...	+ 1.19	...
Worldwide Bond	145.00	152.70	- 2.90	...
European	161.80	170.40	- 3.30	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	637.50	671.20	- 3.10	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	452.40	481.50	+15.00	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£608.10	...	- 0.80	...
-do- Acc	£563.60	...	+ 0.90	...
Agricultural Fd	£813.00	...	+ 0.50	...
-do- Acc	£781.00	...	+ 0.50	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£446.80	...	+ 0.40	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£472.70	...	- 0.40	...
Investment Fd	£338.50	...	- 5.10	...
Investment (A)	£325.40	...	- 4.90	...
Equity	£12.02	...	-39.10	...
Equity Acc	£11.51	...	-19.30	...
Money Fund	£470.60	...	+ 0.30	...
-do- Acc	£450.10	...	+ 0.30	...
Actuarial Fd	£558.70	...	- 7.80	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£368.90	...	- 2.50	...
-do- Acc	£368.00	...	- 2.90	...
Retire Annuity	£12.35	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	£329.00	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	£225.30	...	+ 0.10	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 0256 841414				
Growth Account	£14.14	...	-14.20	...
Managed Acc	£822.20	...	+24.00	...
Equity Account	£11.67	...	+47.50	...
Mngd Fund Acc	378.60	398.50	+11.30	...
Equity Fund Acc	510.70	537.60	-21.50	...
Prop Fund Acc	265.20	279.10	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	295.00	310.60	+ 6.80	...
Money Fund Acc	220.40	232.00	+ 0.20	...
Indx-Lnk Scs Ac	198.00	208.50	+ 1.60	...
Pens Pens Accs	£18.59	...	+31.90	...
Pens Mngd Acc	864.70	910.20	+18.90	...
Pens Guarantee	268.80	283.00	+ 0.40	...
Pens Equity	328.90	346.30	+ 7.20	...
Pens Property	300.90	316.80	...	...
Pens Fixed Int	274.80	289.30	+ 6.10	...
Pens Intl	245.80	258.80	+ 3.30	...
Pens Money	234.90	247.20	+ 0.20	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	189.20	199.20	+ 1.90	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272 426911				
Managed Acc	881.10	927.50	-13.60	...
Property Acc	321.10	338.10	- 0.20	...
Equity Acc	£14.15	£14.90	-21.80	...
Fixed Int Acc	378.10	398.00	- 3.40	...
Index-Linked Acc	193.30	203.50	- 0.40	...
Cash Acc	308.40	324.70	+ 0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	334.10	351.70	- 9.60	...
Japan Acc	323.60	340.70	- 2.90	...
Pacific Acc	378.80	398.80	- 2.40	...
Far Eastern Acc	881.00	927.40	- 4.40	...
International Acc	590.90	622.00	- 6.10	...
Distribution Fund	276.60	291.20	- 1.80	6.01
European	187.90	197.80	- 6.40	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 0264 345678				
Managed Fund	275.70	290.30	- 4.20	...
Property Fund	229.10	241.30	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest Fd	215.40	226.90	- 1.20	...
Money Fund	199.50	210.10	+ 0.10	...
Equity Fund	363.40	382.60	- 6.70	...
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394009				
Deposit	248.60	261.80	+ 0.20	...
Financial Ser 1	45.50	48.90	- 0.80	...
Fixed Interest	314.30	331.00	- 1.00	...
Gold	89.20	94.00	- 2.00	...
Managed	596.50	628.00	-10.70	...
Mngd Growth	195.40	205.80	- 1.90	...
Mngd Opp	207.20	218.20	- 1.90	...
Property	333.60	351.20	+ 0.20	...
Residential Prop	103.10	108.60	...	...
TSB American	182.00	191.60	- 6.50	...
TSB Brit Gwth	810.80	853.60	-20.40	...
TSB European	271.30	285.70	- 4.20	...
TSB Income	377.50	397.50	- 5.70	...
TSB Intl	417.00	439.10	-11.10	...
TSB Intl Inc	269.60	283.90	- 3.50	...
TSB Pacific	446.10	469.70	-12.40	...
TSB Prem Inc	246.40	257.60	- 1.30	...
WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 0952 292929				
Managed Bond	656.80	692.10	-12.60	...
Money Fund	316.90	333.60	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	587.40	619.00	+10.90	...
Fixed Interest	266.30	280.60	+ 0.80	...
Property Fund	365.80	385.10	...	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	540.60	569.70	-19.30	...
Income	715.20	753.60	-15.00	...
International Gth	611.10	643.90	-22.30	...
Capital Fund	611.80	644.70	- 3.40	...
Recovery Fund	648.30	680.00	- 9.80	...
Japan & General	278.50	293.40	- 7.10	...
Formerly AEtna				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	18.03	18.98	+ 0.01	...
Bear	18.73	19.72	- 0.35	...
Owl	19.33	20.35	- 0.13	...
Bull	17.24	18.15	- 0.11	...
Stag	18.43	19.40	- 0.01	...
Gilt Edged	17.73	18.66	- 0.22	...
Deposit	15.80	16.63	+ 0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	24.42	25.71	+ 0.02	...
Bear	25.68	27.03	- 0.54	...
Owl	26.44	27.83	- 0.18	...
Bull	21.99	23.15	- 0.18	...
Stag	22.99	24.20	- 0.02	...
Gilt Edged	22.23	23.40	- 0.27	...
Deposit	20.36	21.43	+ 0.01	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	557.38	...	- 3.75	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	325.28	342.40	+ 1.60	...
N Amer Equity	266.89	280.94	- 6.59	...
Far East Equity	400.79	421.88	- 4.25	...
Fixed	279.08	293.77	- 3.45	...
Cash Deposit	204.52	215.28	+ 0.13	...
Property	155.79	163.99	- 0.02	...
Special Opp	349.15	367.53	+ 3.37	...
Managed	294.89	310.41	- 2.11	...
Index-Linked Fd	184.12	193.81	- 1.11	...

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Telephone Number____

Saga Mailing No. (if known)____

Policy renewal date____

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Terraced House ☐ Detached Bungalow ☐

Semi-detached Bungalow ☐ Flat/Maisonette ☐

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Are you a member of a Police Approved Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? YES ☐ NO ☐

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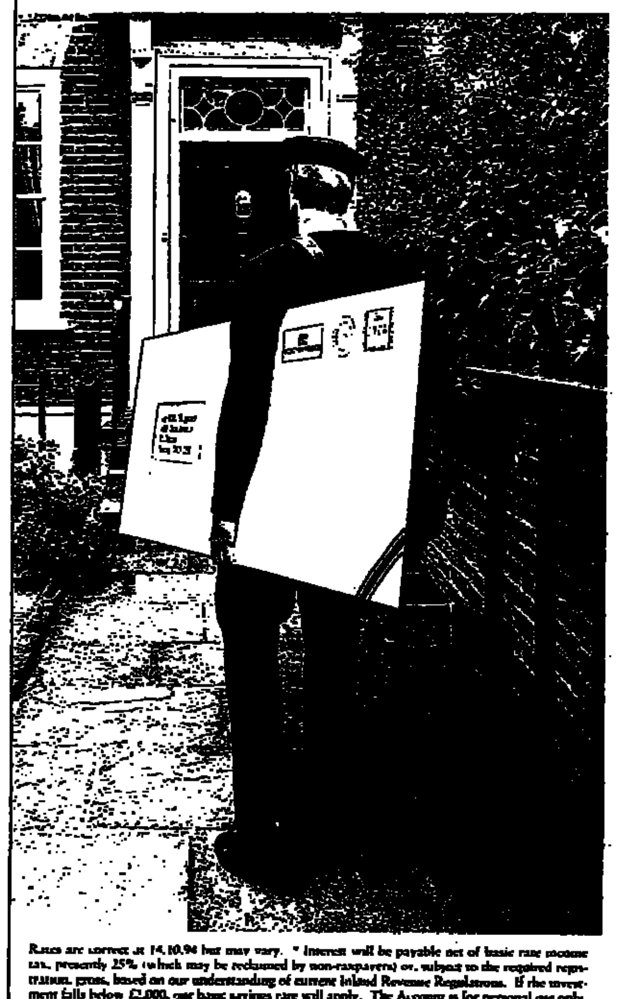

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Rates are correct at 14.10.94 but may vary. * Interest will be payable net of basic rate income tax, presently 25%, (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or, subject to the required registration, gross, based on our understanding of current Inland Revenue Regulations. If the investment falls below £2,000, our basic savings rate will apply. The Account is for personal use only, and is open to permanent UK residents only. Full written terms and conditions will be sent with your application form. Following receipt of your completed application form, your passbook will usually be sent to you within five full working days. Go Direct is a Licensed Issue.

Please post first class to: Michelle Howson, Investment Direct, Northern Rock House, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4EN.

I/We enclose a cheque to be invested in The Go Direct Account for £____ (minimum investment £2,000, maximum account holding with the Society £500,000) payable to the account holder's name/s and crossed 'A/c Payee Only'.

☐ Interest to be added annually to my Go Direct Account.

☐ Interest to be paid annually into my bank / Northern Rock account. (Delete where applicable.)

BANK/CURRENT ACCOUNT NUMBER

BANK SORT CODE

NORTHERN ROCK INVESTMENT ACCOUNT NUMBER

Full name/s____

Address____

Postcode____

Day phone____ Eve phone____

Signature/s____

Date____

☐ I/We require an "Interest with No Tax Deducted" application form. (Tick appropriate box.) Please confirm receipt of my cheque, and send my Go Direct application form.

PROOF OF IDENTITY IS REQUIRED WITH THIS COUPON. GDA TT 42

The Equitable Life

هدية من الأرشيف

	Gross rate	at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max. investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c:						
Typical	0.38	0.38	0.30	1,000	7 day	—
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	4.58	3.42	2.74	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	4.94	3.70	2.96	35,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	3.87	2.90	2.32	10,000-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	5.12	3.84	3.07	10,000-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	4.56	3.42	2.74	10,000-100,000	1 mth	0742 528655
" " "	5.13	3.84	3.08	10,000-100,000	3 mth	0742 528655
NatWest	4.63	3.47	2.78	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" " "	5.13	3.84	3.08	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	3.50	2.63	2.10	2,500‡	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	2.50	1.88	1.50	1,000‡	none	051 2548236
Co-operative Current Acct	0.25	0.18	0.14	none	none	071 626 6543
Citibank	4.75	3.56	2.85	2,000‡	none	0800 555884
Lloyds HICA	1.00	0.75	0.60	500‡	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	1.50	1.13	0.90	2,000‡	none	0742 528655
Abbey National HICA	1.00	0.75	0.60	1,000‡	none	Local Branch
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	2.00	1.50	1.20	2,000‡	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank Intst Chque Acct	1.00	0.75	0.60	2,000‡	none	071-600 6020
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	1.00	0.75	0.60	50+	none	—
Best buy — largest socs:						
Northern Rock	6.65	4.99	3.99	20,000 min	Postal	—
Nationwide	6.90	5.18	4.14	100,000 min	Postal	—
Bradford & Bingley	6.90	5.18	4.14	25,000 min	30 day	—
Halifax *	6.85	5.14	4.11	50,000 min	90 day	—
Alliance & Leic	7.20	5.40	4.32	10,000 min	1 year	—
*0.25% gross bonus if no withdrawals made in a year						
Best buy — all socs:						
Skipton	6.10	4.58	3.66	2,000 min	Instnt	—
Bradford & Bingley	6.65	4.99	3.99	10,000 min	30 day	—
Northern Rock	6.55	4.91	3.93	10,000 min	60 day	—
National Counties	7.25	5.44	4.35	50,000 min	90 day	—
Universal	7.50	5.63	4.50	50,000 min	1 year	—

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline - call 071 404 5766 for further details

	Gross rate	25%	40%	Min/max. investment £	Notice	Contact
NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c¹	3.25	2.44	1.95	500-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c*	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-499	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,000	3 mth	0253 766151
8th Index Lnkd†º	3.00	3.00	3.00	100-10,000	8 day	091-386-4900
42nd Issue Cert†	5.85	5.85	5.85	100-10,000	8 day	091-386 4900
Yearly Plan†	5.85	5.85	5.85	20-400/mth	14 day	091-386 4900
Children's Bond	7.85	7.85	7.85	25-10,000		
Gen Ext Rate†	3.51	3.51	3.51			
Capital Bond*	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8 days	041-649-4555
1st Option Bond⁴	6.40	4.80	3.84	1,000-19,999		
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
AIG Life	5.90	5.90	5.02	50,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
AIG Life	6.60	6.60	5.61	50,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
Laurentian Life	6.90	6.90	5.87	50,000 min	3 yrs	Vere
General Portfolio	7.00	7.00	5.95	50,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5766
Eurolife	8.00	8.00	6.80	10,000 min	5 yrs	for details

RATES	
RPI (Aug 93-94)	+2.4%
Bank Base Rate	5.75%
Personal Loan	28%
Credit Card	25 - 27%

HOLIDAY RATES	£ buys
Spanish Pesetas:	196.00
French Francs:	8.13
Greek Drachmas:	364.00
Italian Lire:	2420.00

TESSA	CAR (%)	£3,000 val 1 year on	Transfer penalty	Minimum invest	Telephone number
Market Harbor.	7.60	£3,228.00	90 day loss/notice	£9,000	0858 463244
Cheshire	7.40	£3,222.00		£1	0860 243278
Hinckley&Rugby	7.35	£3,220.50	90 day loss	£3,000	0455 251234
Tipton&Coseley	7.35	£3,220.50	7 days notice&£20	£1	021 5572551
National Count	7.30	£3,215.00	90 day loss	£3,000	0372 742211

¹ 2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less * Additional holdings up to £20,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates †Tax free *Interest taxable paid gross ‡Higher rates for larger sums º Guaranteed over the rate of inflation ⁴ 0.3% net bonus for amounts £20,000+

Compiled by JOANNA DUROWSE

Lender	Interest Rate %	Loan Size	Max %	Notes
BUILDING SOCIETIES				
Scarborough 0723 368115	1.95%	to £100k	95	After 6.20% discount for 6 months
Progressive 0232 244926	2.10%	Neg	95	After 6% discount to 1.9.95
Britannia 0800 526350	2.49%	to £100k	90	After 5.65% discount to 1.10.95
BANKS				
Bank of Ireland 0734 393393	3.95%	£30 to £80K	95	After 4.10% discount to 1.11.95
OTHER (BANKS)				
Lloyds 0800 400121	4.35%	to £60K	95	After 3.75% discount for 1 year

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LETTERS

Ernie gives lesson in depreciation

From Mr D. Anstis

Sir, I was once persuaded, by the official publicity, that, as well as for myself, it was also a good thing for the country as a whole to invest in Premium Savings (sic) Bonds. Accordingly, I teed off my first venture with a thoughtfully considered amount equal to almost one half of our monthly mortgage repayment — a mortgage, by the way, on a 25 year/90 per cent basis for a modest 3-bed semi.

To date (and the Bond has recently passed its 30th birthday), and throughout life's various vicissitudes and stresses, none of the Bond's component units has displayed any sign of activity, other than that of complete financial silence. And, to be honest, I think I know now that this is the way it is always going to be: never even, alas, to make a brief showing in a column entitled "Winnings estimated for year ending 31 March 1995".

When I think that, as an alternative at the time, I might have enjoyed 20 or so three-course lunches out, or driven 1,000 miles, or visited 15 stately homes, or experienced any appropriate combination of all three, I think now there is some cause to regret that initial, trustful act of passing over to Ernie the safe-keeping of my precious fiver.

Whilst, therefore, unable to usefully contribute to an expert discussion of the odds against winning any prizes at all or, arguably, a reasonable return apparently made possible by immensely larger Bond holdings, I am certainly made extremely thoughtful about the depreciation of money and value. Otherwise, one can only hope that, for the country as a whole, this form of saving has, indeed, been a good thing.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ANSTIS,
1 Green Lane,
Chichester.

Unfriendly society

From Mrs I. Gunst

Sir, The article on friendly societies (October 8) should have contained a warning to the public that their investment linked to an insurance policy with Homeowners Friendly Society will have a large amount deducted for "administration" initially.

I invested £5,000 in a High Growth Bond with Homeowners on February 11, 1994, and now discover, eight months later, that my investment is worth only £4,506.

The HFS appears to be operating on the same system as some other insurance companies, where savings in the first year are paid solely to the agent in commission.

Banks and building societies are far more reliable for savers.

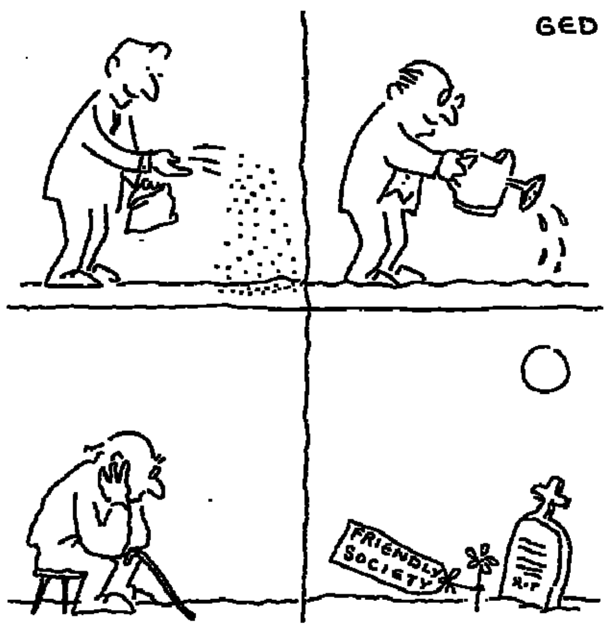
Yours faithfully,
I. GUNST,
53 New Cheveley Road,
Newmarket, Suffolk.

Excellent returns

From Mrs J. Gordon

Sir, Do not despair, disgruntled old Premium Bond holders! I have £7 worth purchased for me as a child in the early 1960s. I have been rewarded £100 in 1981 and £50 in 1993 — an excellent return on something I had forgotten existed.

Yours faithfully,
JANET GORDON,
7 Montsford Close,
Knowle, Solihull.



Big variation in Friendly Societies' returns

From Mr J. R. Todd

Sir, I was most interested in reading your article in Weekend Money on Saturday, 8 October, on Friendly Societies, as I had just received a cheque for £1,290.83 from the Family Assurance Friendly Society, being the result of a ten-year savings plan of £100 per year for ten years in a managed growth fund, a return of £290.83 in a ten-year investment! This sum barely covers inflation!

I know some other societies do much better as my wife had a return of £691.31 from Homeowners for a similar sum invested over the same period.

By all means raise the savings limit, but restrict it to those societies who are efficient and serve their members well.

The others only abuse the name "friendly society".

Yours faithfully,
J. R. TODD,
6 Mansion House Road,
Paisley.

Director's discretion on Premium Bond prizes

From Mr M. J. Dawson

Sir, On your Weekend Money letters page on October 15, Mr Alan McGill, Premium Bond controller, explains Ernie's impartiality in producing winning numbers.

Would he care to clarify Paragraph 13 of the current Premium Bond Prospectus? It reads: "The Director of Savings has sole discretion on all matters concerning the method and conduct of the draws and the allotment of prizes. His decision as to which Bonds have won prizes is final."

Is he selective in his disbursements?

Yours faithfully,
M. J. DAWSON,
16 Rookery Avenue,
Grimsby, South Humberside.

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THE PEOPLE WITH CAPITAL IDEAS™

New Investment Trust

THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH 25 SEPTEMBER 1994

Something special from Fidelity

With interest rates unlikely to soar and inflation holding steady, Fidelity's Special Values Investment trust fits the economic climate, writes Jeff Prestridge

ANTHONY BOLTON, one of Britain's top fund managers, will next month front a new £50 million-plus "Special situations" investment trust. Advisers reckon the fund will make a good vehicle for investors hoping to gain from strengthening economic growth.

Bolton will apply the same stock-picking skills to Fidelity Special Values that he has used on the £496 million Fidelity Special Situations unit trust.

Since launch in December 1979, Special Situations has generated average annual returns of 24.2 per cent against 17 per cent for the All Share Index. These gains have been made despite two big blips in relative performance in 1981-82 and 1991-92 when the fund was savaged by recession - a process exaggerated following a big redemption of units by disillusioned investors.

This had the effect of dragging the fund's performance further into the mire. But in the past two calendar years, the trust has made recovery, registering unit price gains of 25 and 47 per cent respectively.

The trust's solid long-term record has resulted in Fund Research, Britain's top independent unit trust performance analyst, awarding Fidelity Special Situations a "double A" rating, an accolade which few fund managers achieve. The top award is triple A.

Fund Research's Philip Glaze says, "Bolton's thorough stockpickingapproach has reaped its reward. His type of fund will always show periods of out and underperformance but what Bolton seems to be able to do better than most is ride out the bad times. His terrific long-term performance speaks for itself."

Bolton will adopt the same investment strategy for Special Value as for Special Situations - investing in out-of-favour stocks, recovery shares or companies possess fund's which puts other investors off but wh change over the next one or two years.

The companies Bolton buys will have market values of betw

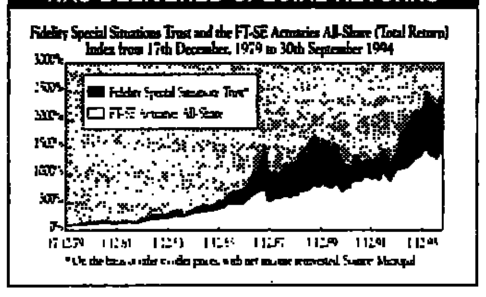
Bolton: a long-term fund manager who "can ride out the bad times better than most"

Get your Mini Prospectus today! (Let the press explain why).

AVAILABLE NOW

Fidelity Special Situations Trust has established an outstanding performance record since launch, as the graph demonstrates. Now the proven investment approach behind this unit trust is available through an investment trust - Fidelity Special Values PLC - which will be managed by the same team.

The unit trust's manager, Anthony Bolton, actively manages a portfolio of 'special situations'; companies which Fidelity considers to be undervalued. The success of this approach is reflected in the unit trust's long-term performance - a return of +2,115% greatly in excess of the FT-SE Actuaries All Share (Total Return) Index.


HOW FIDELITY SPECIAL SITUATIONS HAS DELIVERED SPECIAL RETURNS

Fidelity Special Values PLC has the feature of being geared through the issue of Index-Linked Stock. Ordinary Shareholders will benefit if the Investment Trust outperforms the Index but obviously the reverse will be true if the Investment Trust underperforms the Index. The Investment Trust also qualifies as a PEP.

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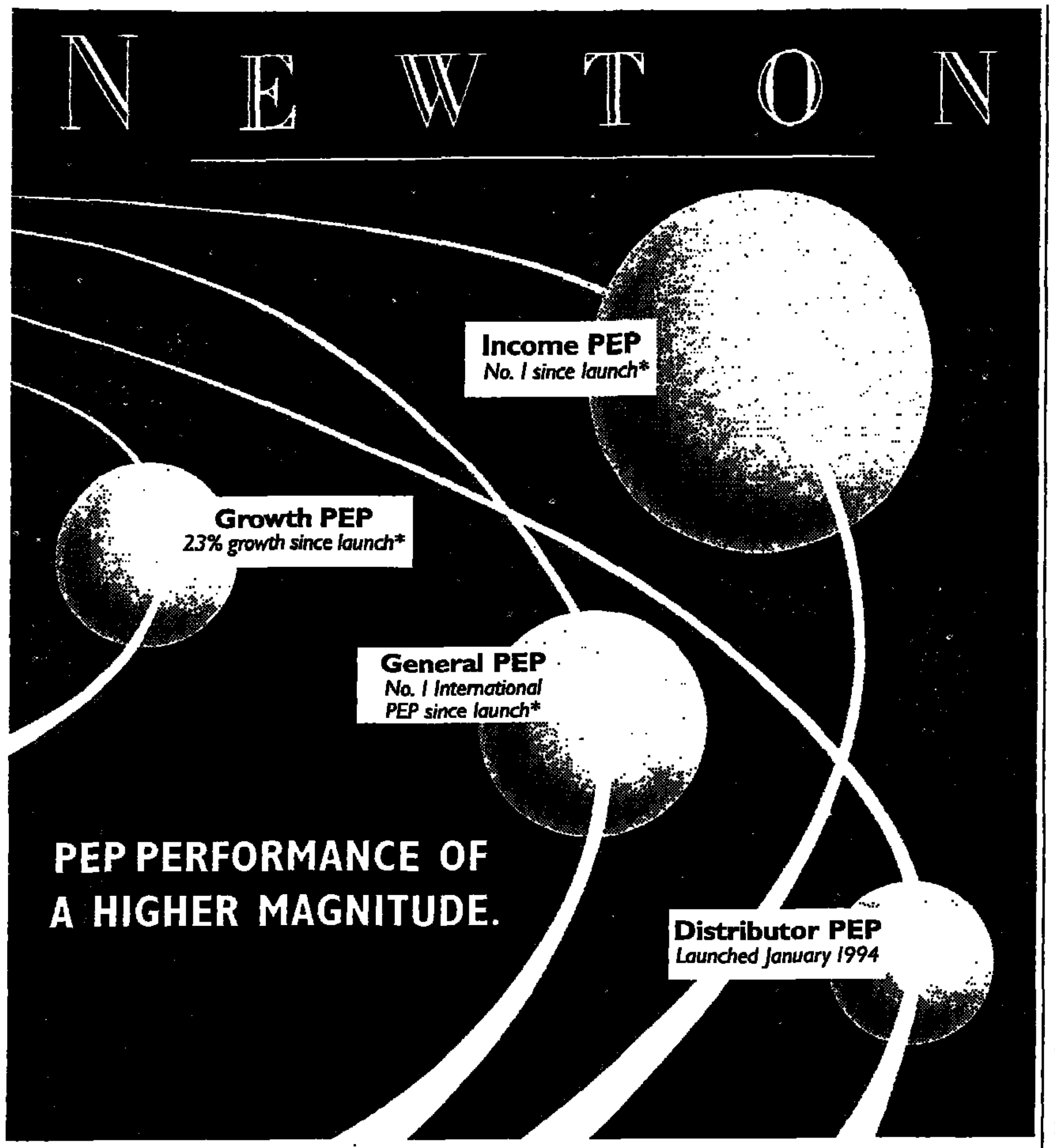

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*Source: Micropal/Daily Telegraph PEPGuide, figures to 3rd October 1994 from launch (Income Fund, 1/5/85, General Fund, 2/4/90, Growth Fund, 1/12/92) on an offer-to-bid basis including gross income reinvested. Growth figures for Income PEP over five years, 84%. Prevailing tax levels and reliefs are liable to change and their value will depend on your individual circumstances. The value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the full amount invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. Issued by Newton Fund Managers Limited, a member of IMRO and AUTIF. Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority.

In good shape seven years after the crash

New realism makes for a confident market, says Lindsay Cook

The anniversary this week of the 1987 crash passed somewhat uneventfully for most of the two and a half million people who hold unit trusts. Those who remember trying in vain to contact the dealing desks of unit trust houses as the FTSE-100 index fell by 250 points are now altogether more relaxed about the antics of the markets and have reason to expect their calls to be answered whatever the market conditions.

Times have changed for both investors and companies in the last seven years. The FTSE has put on more than 50 per cent and the number of unit trust investors has increased by a million in the last 18 months alone, after remaining static at around 1.5 million for some time.

Many investors panicked and cashed in their unit holdings back in 1987. Others waited until their units reached pre-crash levels and then departed feeling that they had lost nothing.

Low interest rates have forced many people into unit trusts seeking income. Fund managers have responded by designing trusts that will give investors what they want. People from building society backgrounds have often proved reluctant to pay the clearly-stated entry charges for unit trusts. Their concerns have been recognised by a growing number of unit trust groups which are willing to consider the needs of the price-sensitive — and possibly steal a march on their rival groups in the process. The days when groups were vying with each other to edge up their charges are long gone.

When markets are volatile, investors are even more sensitive about the charges being levied. They are also a lot more realistic than many who were caught out by the crash. They know, without looking at the advertisements, that prices can go down as well as up. But they also know that house prices can fall too, and interest rates on building society accounts may not keep pace with even the current low rates of inflation after tax.

Some are all too aware that even the miserly income they get on their savings accounts can cost them in lost age allowance, making them the most taxed sector of society. The 24.5 point fall in the FTSE on the actual anniversary of Black Monday pales into insignificance alongside many of these events. Market watchers are aware that it is just as likely to rise as fall by that amount on any day.

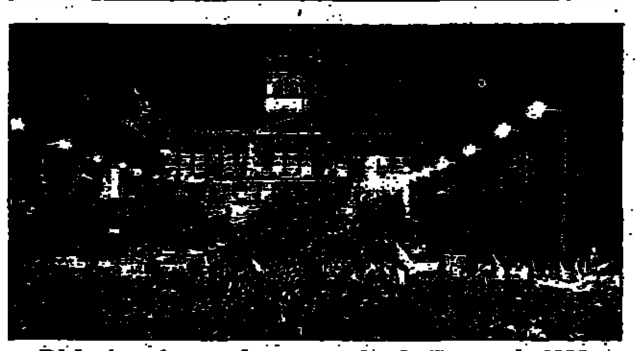
Stock-picking by fund managers can put them ahead of the index, and investors who are more nervous have a range of index funds to choose from. Then they can listen to the news last thing at night and know roughly that their investment might have moved by 1 per cent or not.

How to judge your risk level

Rick Marsland on the investor's guide to acceptable level of risk

Every investor has a different acceptable level of risk, depending on a whole mass of aspirations and personal circumstances. Do you need quick access to your money, or are you looking for growth in your capital over the long term? Are you hoping for a steady flow of income, or do you fancy going for quick returns on your spare cash? How about the excitement of some exotic special situations overseas, where the risk underlying investments is magnified by the fluctuation of the currency in which they are priced?

Once questions like these are answered, picking the right funds becomes easier. But even among fund managers, the idea of what constitutes a risky investment is changing. The safest investment can turn sour. And for investors looking to get the best return from unit trusts, getting to grips with risk is perhaps the most challenging part of the whole process.



Risky location? A demonstration in Prague in 1989

Risk is best defined as the amount by which an investment fluctuates in value during a given period. The greater the fluctuation, the greater the risk — yet the greater the opportunity for profit.

From the beginning of November, the Securities & Investments Board will stop publishing a list of approved markets in which unit trusts are allowed to make significant investments. This will leave fund managers the freedom to decide for themselves where the money should go.

Some unit trust companies have come up with their own risk-rating systems. Fidelity has produced a "spectrum" of risk across its product range to help advisers choose the most suitable products for their clients. Gartmore also risk rates its funds.

Others prefer to use a historical measure of volatility to assess risk, using as a yardstick the amount that a fund has deviated from a measure such as an inflation-adjusted building society account, or the FTSE-100 index.

But none of the methods of measuring risk is perfect. For one thing, a bewildering array of techniques is employed. And many in the industry are increasingly sceptical that an investment's past record gives any guide whatsoever to its future performance of risk.

The risk picture is further complicated by the question of timing. A gilts fund may appear a safe investment, but if you buy it the day before interest rates go up then it becomes very risky. An investment which may be relatively safe over the medium or long term may be extremely volatile over a short period.

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*Source: Micropal offer to bid position in relevant sector with net income reinvested to 17.10.94. 5 year figures from 02.10.89. Schroder UK Equity Fund since 03.01.72, (first date recorded on Micropal) 1/15 and over 5 years 1/80. Schroder Tokyo Fund since 02.03.81 1/11 and over 5 years 10/69. Schroder Japanese Smaller Companies Fund since 01.02.84 7/26 and over 5 years 1/69. Schroder UK Enterprise Fund since 01.08.88 1/107 and over 5 years 2/117. Schroder US Smaller Companies Fund since 01.03.90 1/107. **Source: Investment Intelligence at 01.10.94.

Schroders
Schroder Investment Management

GAETAN COTTON/NEWS TEAM

Sarah, Rebecca and Deborah Brittain. Mrs Brittain invested in Peps with a lump sum after the death of her husband

DEBORAH Brittain is one investor who has taken full advantage of her annual £6,000 Personal Equity Plan allowance. She began investing in Peps more than three years ago when she had to decide how best to invest a lump sum she received after her husband, Terry, died in a car accident, *Robert Miller writes.*

The fact that she had a lump sum to invest at all is because she and Terry had decided to sort out their financial affairs five months before the accident. "Although I was used to handling all the household bills, neither of us had taken any proper financial advice," she says. "We went to see Graham Gamble, an independent adviser, who was at school with both of us. We made wills, took out life insurance and protection against illness and redundancy. We put everything in trust for the children in case anything happened.

"Because Terry died in a car accident, the death certificate wasn't issued immediately and therefore the pay-out from his life insurance policy was vital. Without it, I might have had to wait for up to six months and, with two young children to feed and clothe as well as myself, we would have struggled."

When the money came through, Mrs Brittain sat down with her adviser again, who by that stage had joined J Rothschild Assurance (JRA). "We decided that I would use my annual Pep allowance to shelter some of the money from future income and capital gains tax liability," she says. "I chose JRA's St James's Place UK and General Progressive unit trust and I invested £3,000 to begin with. Since then I have invested my maximum allowance each year. I have now invested a total of £15,000 in three St James's unit trusts." The other two are High Income and Greater European Progressive.

According to the latest Micropal performance statistics to October 3, St James's UK and General trust has produced a gain of £52.90 for every £100 invested over the past three years, with charges included. High Income, which has not been in existence as long, has produced a profit of £45.60 for every £100 invested over two years. Greater European has produced a gain of £81.33 per £100 over three years.

Mrs Brittain says: "*I have not* invested in Peps with a specific target but so far I haven't taken any profits. But I do monitor their performance closely. If they perform consistently badly against other similar trusts or the market in general, I would have no hesitation in switching to another manager."

How to weigh up one Pep against another

Sara McConnell reports on the questions to ask when trying to find the right investment

Cutting charges is a simple way for fund management companies to persuade investors that they have a good deal on their Personal Equity Plan. However, there is little point in saving on charges if you lose money because the investment performs badly for the next five years.

Some of the present cost-cutting masks desperation on the part of certain fund managers who are under pressure to keep their heads above water in an increasingly competitive market. Conversely, you do not want to pay more than you have to.

After a shaky start, unit trust Peps have proved to be a major money-spinner for fund management companies. Successive changes to Pep rules have allowed investors to link plans to unit trusts and investment trusts, which means they can spread the risk of a small investment. Everyone can put £6,000 a year into a general Pep and a further £3,000 into a single company Pep and receive income and capital gains tax free. Fund managers have shamelessly pushed the tax-free status of Peps while disguising the unpalatable fact that charges and/or poor performance leave little or no gain to tax anyway.

How do you weigh up one Pep against another? How do you choose the best fund and the best manager for you? Just sifting through the information can be time-consuming because of the number of plans on offer.

If you have an independent financial adviser, he or she can do the work for you. They are paid to monitor the investment performance of different companies and their individual funds, both relative to their competitors in the sector and to the market as a whole. But even if you have an adviser, you should be prepared to question them on their reasons for choosing one fund manager over another. What is the difference between M & G, Prolific, Perpetual and Fidelity? They are all household names but what about the others?

Your first move is to decide whether you want income, capital growth or a mixture of both. You should then decide roughly how much risk you want to take. This will define which sectors you should consider.

After this, you choose the company. Advisers suggest you should use some or all of the following criteria:

'Look at the performance of funds over the longer term'

Kean Seager

■ **Reputation:** Most potential Pep investors have heard of the big fund management companies. This does not mean they are necessarily the best or even the most financially secure. What does their reputation rest on? Graham Hooper, investment director at adviser Chase de Vere, says: "Look at their ratings by agencies such as Standard & Poors [which rates the creditworthiness of financial institutions]. Ask about their funds under management. Find out about the fund manager."

Good past performance is no guarantee of good future performance. Kean Seager, managing director of Whitechurch Securities, the Bristol adviser, says investors should "take a step back". Consult a magazine such as *Money Management* and look at the performance of funds over the longer term (at least five years). If a fund has done well or badly is it mirroring the performance of other funds in its sector? How has it done relative to other funds in the same sector?

Companies may have one or two outstanding funds or they may be good (or bad) in all areas, Mr Hooper says. Star fund managers can be good news but equally, they can move on. Mr Seager says: "If the fund is managed by a star, you have to question whether this performance will continue."

Peter Smith, regional director of Hill Martin, says he looks for consistency of performance across all the funds run by a particular group, rather than pinpointing particular funds.

■ **Management philosophy:** This is often closely linked to consistency. Companies have different ways of investing. For example, some choose specific company shares, while others allocate assets to particular sectors or areas. They also have different ways of managing funds. Some manage by committee while others have individual fund managers who can make or break a fund's performance. Ask companies in which you are interested what approach they take.

■ **Charges:** These can easily erode performance. They are the only fixed part of the equation when weighing up Peps. Charges are certain, while performance is not. Traditionally, unit trust Peps have carried an initial charge of between 5 and 6 per cent plus an annual management charge of between 1 and 1.25 per cent. More and more companies have converted the up-front charge to a sliding scale exit fee so that it bites only if you cash in the plan less than five years after you buy it. This is intended to encourage long-term investing and obviously saves you money if you hang on. Some companies have increased their annual charges to about 1.5 per cent to compensate.

■ **Switching:** If your Pep is not performing, can you transfer your money to another company? The answer is almost certainly yes, with some caveats. First, give your existing provider at least two or three years to prove itself. If performance is still not up to scratch, you should consider moving. Remember you may have to pay set-up charges to the new company (although others will let you transfer free) as well as a fee to your existing manager. Find out exactly what the cost will be.

You must also make sure your existing company does not cash in the units and send you a cheque for the proceeds. If it does, you will have lost your Pep allowance for the year to which the investment relates. If you try to reinvest you will lose this year's entitlement. Either get the existing company to sell your units and send the proceeds directly to your new manager or ask it to transfer the units, which your new company can then sell.

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All Schroders' fund managers have an input into the decision-making process. **Liz Dolan** on the success of its corporate strategy

Racing along from a standing start

Five years ago, Schroders' unit trust arm was thirteenth in the pecking order of unit trust providers. Today, it is the second largest, with more than £6 billion under management.

This figure includes a disproportionately high level of pension fund money and, if its position were measured in terms of private investor business alone, Schroders would come lower on the list. But, however you interpret the figures, it is still a fair achievement for a company which quit the market in the mid-1980s as it was nearing its peak, and returned three years later just as the industry was entering one of its most uncomfortable periods.

From a standing start, Schroders accounts for 1.1 to 1.2 per cent of the private investor market, and 7 per cent of the market as a whole. With sales running at 3 per cent of total industry figures, this share is growing fast. "We're definitely outselling our market share at the moment," Clive Boothman, managing director, says. The company went into profit for the first time last year, and expects further improvement in 1994.

When Schroders sold its life assurance arm to National Mutual of Australasia for £99 million in 1986, it agreed to stay out of the unit trust market for three years. When it returned in October 1989, its first task was to rebuild its brand recognition. "We haven't spent as much as some of our competitors on establishing Schroders as a brand name in the unit and investment trust market place. We still have some way to go compared with Fidelity and M & G. There are still quite a few people who think we make kitchens."

> We are definitely outselling our market share at the moment

Peps are playing an increasingly important part in the general marketing strategy, although Mr Boothman says that the company missed out by delaying its entry into the field until 1990. Peps now account for £320 million of the total £1.65 billion invested in the company's 31 unit trusts and three investment trusts. "We've been a bit more aggressive in the market this year and doubled our Pep volumes. But, there again, we've been very successful with unit trusts as a whole in 1994."

The company keeps a tight rein on corporate investment strategy. Keith Niven, the chairman, says: "We have to balance the individuality and enthusiasm of our fund management team with the need for a consistent overall strategy. All our fund managers have an input into the decision-making process. They discuss their views in open forum." Once all opinions have been sought, a general house view is devised, and fund managers have to stick to it. "For instance," says Mr Bootham, "as a house, we have tended to view inflation as less of a threat than most of our competitors. This view, once arrived at, will have been reflected consistently through all our investment decision-making. Doubtless, some fund managers have disagreed with that judgment and will have said so, but they will then have had to abide by the house view."

Schroders' team: from left, Keith Niven, Clive Boothman and Bridget Cleverly. They are outselling their market share

At the moment, Schroders is "reasonably bullish" about the UK and Japanese markets. The UK's attractions for Schroders are due partly to its generally sanguine attitude to inflation prospects. The same view has also prompted a tactical interest in gilts, which has now started to come good — "although, clearly, the interest rate cycle is now on an upward movement".

The company has been slower than most to exploit economic recovery in Europe and, even now, is keener on the smaller companies end of that market. American smaller companies is another favoured area.

Most, but not all, of its unit and investment trusts are suitable for private investors. The two attracting the most money are the Tokyo and UK Enterprise trusts, in line with its general investment strategy.

What is the plan for the next five years? "There's still an awful lot to do," Mr Boothman says. "Our basic unit trust range is now reasonably complete. The last one we launched was Emerging Markets, this time last year. It's been a bit of a roller coaster ride since then, but it's really one to lock away for the future. It filled an obvious gap in our range. We will launch another only if we discover another gap elsewhere." The main thrust over the next few years is expected to centre on investment trusts.

Mr Boothman is wary of discussing new products. "There are obvious areas to consider, such as Europe and personal pensions," he says.

A report on Schroders by Fund Research, an independent analyst, says: "Schroders has many areas of excellence in performance terms with funds managed from both London and regional offices. They range from Japanese smaller companies to many of the UK trusts.

"From time to time some areas appear to have less than perfect results, eg in America towards the end of the 1980s. Currently, it has been recognised that European funds have been going through a similar phase."

Fund Research says that it expects a change in emphasis to correct the underperformance of its European funds and adds: "It is in the nature of the group philosophy that changes tend to be gradual yet positive and occur in the context of the team."

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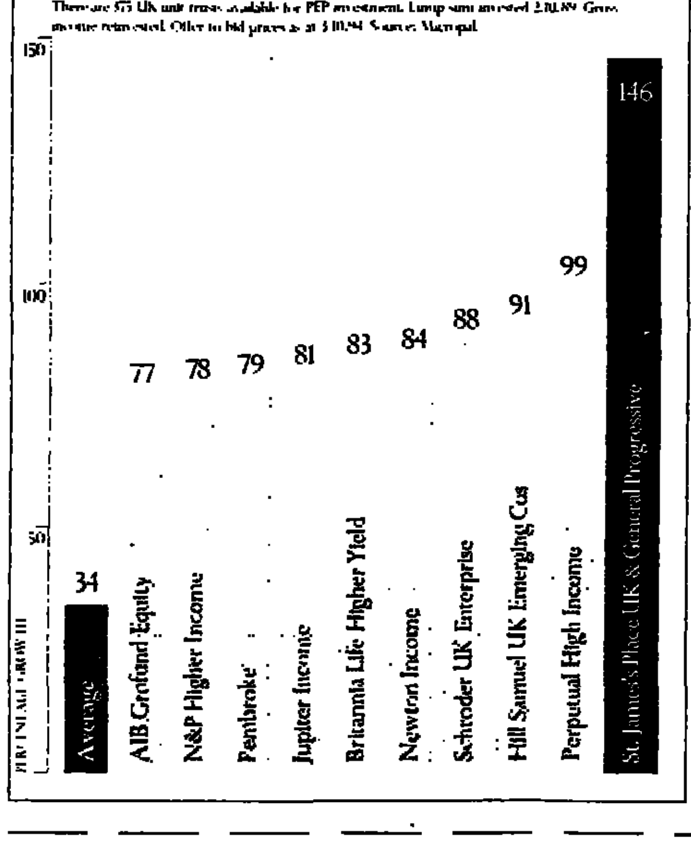

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Put your portfolio on a drip-feed

A steady investment can cut down on risks, says **Jill Insley**

As investors who put all their money into the stockmarkets just before the October 1987 crash discovered, investing all your cash at once may not be a good idea. You could be lucky in choosing the right moment to buy or sell investments, but without perfecting the art of crystal ball gazing, you will never be sure.

Private client stockbrokers and portfolio management companies specialise in feeding clients' money into the markets at the right time, but will often not consider portfolios worth less than £50,000.

Unit trust Saving Schemes enable investors to drip feed money into the stockmarkets, thus avoiding a decision on the "perfect time to invest". They are also the ideal way for new investors to benefit from professional investment management while building up their savings.

Regular saving also offers the advantage of "pound cost averaging". Investing the same amount each month will ensure that you buy more units when they are cheap and fewer units when they are expensive. Regular saving is thus an efficient way of timing one's investments.

Some investors find that unit trust savings schemes provide an additional psychological benefit. Because they are investing a painless amount each month, they hardly notice the money leaving their account. At the same time, they are less likely to dip into their unit trust savings than into a bank or building society deposit account.

As little as £10 can be invested on a monthly basis into a unit trust savings scheme, although £25 is generally the minimum. Fund managers levy exactly the same charge for lump sum or regular monthly investments, and some charge less if you invest in their unit trusts through a tax-free Pep. For example, Fidelity Investment Services makes a 5.25 per cent initial levy for ordinary unit trust investments, but charges just 3 per cent up front for investments in its unit trust Pep. Annual management charges are the same for both unit trust and Pep charges.

Martin Mullany, a director of Brooks Macdonald Gayer, independent financial advisers in London, says: "It always pays investors who have neither the time or the inclination to watch investment performance to buy units over a period of time. This reduces their chances of investing when the market is on a high."

Equally, however, investors may lose the opportunity of investing all their money when the markets have bottomed out and are on the turn.

Mr Mullany suggests that those who do not want to invest all their money in one go can hold money in an interest-bearing account and pay portions into a unit trust or Pep by direct debit.

Alternatively, Henderson Touche Remnant Unit Trust Management, Fidelity and Laurentian Unit Trust Management allow investors to make lump sum investments which are then drip-fed into unit trusts or Peps over a predetermined period. Laurentian transfers one twelfth of the investor's lump sum, held in its cash trust, to his or her preferred unit trust each month. Fidelity's drip-feed system uses the tax shelter of a Pep. The lump sum, held in a Pep throughout, initially earns interest at the same rate as the Barclays Clients Premium Account. Money is transferred in six monthly portions to whichever unit trust the investor selects.

The flexibility of unit trust savings schemes allows them to be used for many purposes — to repay mortgages, pay school fees, fund holidays or to cover rainy days. Part or all of the capital accumulated can usually be withdrawn at any time without penalty, although some fund managers have introduced exit charges for withdrawals made within five years of investment. It is important for investors to check the terms of their proposed investment.

Some fund managers, including Prolific and Fidelity, have "bundled" their unit trust Peps with life insurance to provide a more flexible and tax-efficient version of the endowment mortgage. Fidelity's plan tracks the performance of the Pep to ensure that the home buyer is on course to pay off the mortgage.

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Route through the minefield

Unit trusts can pay a higher return than a building society, and even offer tax-free income, but which one should you choose? **Helen Pridham** reports

For investors who need a regular income from their capital, unit trusts have many attractions. They can pay a higher return than a building society account, particularly to smaller investors. If you can invest through a Pep, you get the added bonus that your income is tax-free. Though their capital performance has not been too hot over the past year, over the medium to long-term many funds have provided both income and capital growth in excess of inflation.

However, with more than 200 different income funds on sale, making the right choice is not easy. Peter Edwards, of Premier Unit Trust Brokers in Bristol, a unit trust adviser, says: "For a novice investor, it is a minefield. The gap between the best and worst performing funds is huge." In his latest survey of income funds earlier this year, Mr Edwards noted that while the top dozen unit trusts had increased their income payouts by 25 per cent over the past four years, the bottom dozen had decreased by 16 per cent.

Yields on income funds vary from a low 2 per cent up to 10 per cent. Choosing a unit trust on its yield alone would be short-sighted. Since some funds are now setting their annual charges against capital rather than income — which helps to give their yields a boost — you would not be comparing like with like.

The Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Autif) divides funds that provide income into at least six categories according to their investment strategy. The largest and most popular group are the UK equity income trusts. Latest sales figures show that nearly £2 billion has flowed into UK equity income funds since the beginning of this year — more than into any other type of unit trust.

These funds invest in higher yielding UK shares, passing on the dividends to investors and, because these shares tend to be recovery stocks, also generally achieving capital growth over the medium to long-term as well. The largest equity income unit trust is the £1 billion M & G Dividend Fund. It is one of the most consistent performers in its sector, according to Unit Trust Analysis Ltd. It has an unbroken 25-year record of maintaining or increasing its income payments. Over the past five years, it has produced a total return of capital growth plus income of 42 per cent.

But not all equity income funds are the same. Two of the highest yielding are Exeter High Income and Guinness Flight Income Share, with yields of 9.1 per cent and 8.2 per cent. However, they are unusual since they invest in the income shares of split capital investment trusts, so that their scope for generating capital growth is limited.

There are other types of income funds to choose from. Increasingly popular over the past couple of years have been those which are categorised as UK balanced funds. They normally invest in a spread of shares and fixed-interest securities. By including fixed-interest securities in their portfolios, these funds are able to provide higher yields than is normally obtainable from shares alone.

These trusts often employ a similar investment strategy to the highly popular Distribution Bonds offered by insurance companies. The unit trust route can be more tax efficient, however, and HSBC (formerly James Capel) has just launched a unit trust, "Electra", which seeks to capitalise on the similarity. It offers a choice of monthly payouts, or, if they prefer, investors can leave their capital to accumulate.

The balanced approach can mean sacrificing some or all future capital growth. Funds such as Hypo F & C High Income and Morgan Grenfell High Income, which combine shares with debentures and financial derivatives in order to provide a very high immediate income, offer little prospect of growth or even a guarantee that the value of your original investment will be maintained.

Traditional investments for those seeking a high and secure income are government securities. There are also a number of specialist gilt income unit trusts which aim to provide better returns than those available to direct investors by trading in gilt stock and taking advantage of anomalies which arise between gilts with different maturity dates. One of the highest yielding of these funds is Barclays Unicorn Gilt & Fixed Interest, which is also ranked third in its sector over five years for total return.

While UK share and bonds tend to be higher yielding than their overseas counterparts, you do not have to be completely parochial in your choice of unit trusts. There are also three other international categories of income funds — equity income, balanced and fixed interest — to give your income investments some diversification.

According to Unit Trust Analysis, consistent performers in the international equity income sector include Semper Eadem Sector Recovery, M & G International income and Martin Currie International Income.

IMAGE BANK

TOP INCOME FUNDS

The Top Twelve Funds by Dividend Growth & Total Return

	Dividend Growth 4yrs to 1.1.94 %	Total Return Capital Growth plus net income to 1.10.94 %	%	%	Income Yield 1.10.94 %
Jupiter Income	64	5	66	72	4.02
GT Income	21	1	57	54	4.53
Morgan Grenfell Equity Inc	17	0.1	47	58	3.17
Henderson TR Inc & Growth	40	1	33	44	3.24
Perpetual High Income	20	-4	42	77	4.12
Credit Suisse Income	53	-4	34	54	4.80
Eagle Star UK High Income	25	-6	27	53	4.77
Schroder Income	23	-4	37	52	3.80
M&G Dividend	28	-3	40	42	4.44
Newton Income	10	-2	40	75	3.55
M&G Equity Income	4	2	48	39	4.90
N&P Higher Income	-6	-3	42	66	4.90

Source: Premier Unit Trust Brokers

Take a chance on the East

RECEIVED wisdom used to be that investments in the stockmarkets of developing areas — ranging from Latin America to Eastern Europe, from India to the Pacific — were an area where most investors should fear to tread, *Rick Marsland* writes.

Until very recently, the traditional view was that investments in emerging economies should make up a maximum of 5 per cent of a well-balanced portfolio.

But, in the past few years, some of the bluest chips have turned an unexpectedly nasty shade of red with little or no warning, while many emerging markets have roared ahead.

Partly as a result of this, many fund managers now believe that a weighting of 25 per cent in emerging economies is about right, and some would push the level even higher. This change is backed up by hard commercial logic. Emerging economies — especially in Asia — are expanding so rapidly that they could well experience double the growth of developed economies in the next 20 years or so.

Also, research in the United States has shown that while emerging markets do tend to be more volatile than established ones, there is little sign of a link between the way the different emerging markets move. In other words, as an investment in one emerging market plummets, the odds are that another one will be rocketing skyward — meaning that the overall movement shown by a portfolio of emerging-market stocks may be little different from one invested in developed countries.

As unit trusts widen their nets to take in some of the growth of the developing countries, there are undoubtedly good opportunities. And if the theorists are right, and the risk factors in emerging economies can serve to balance each other out, then investors may not even have to be brave to see the benefits.

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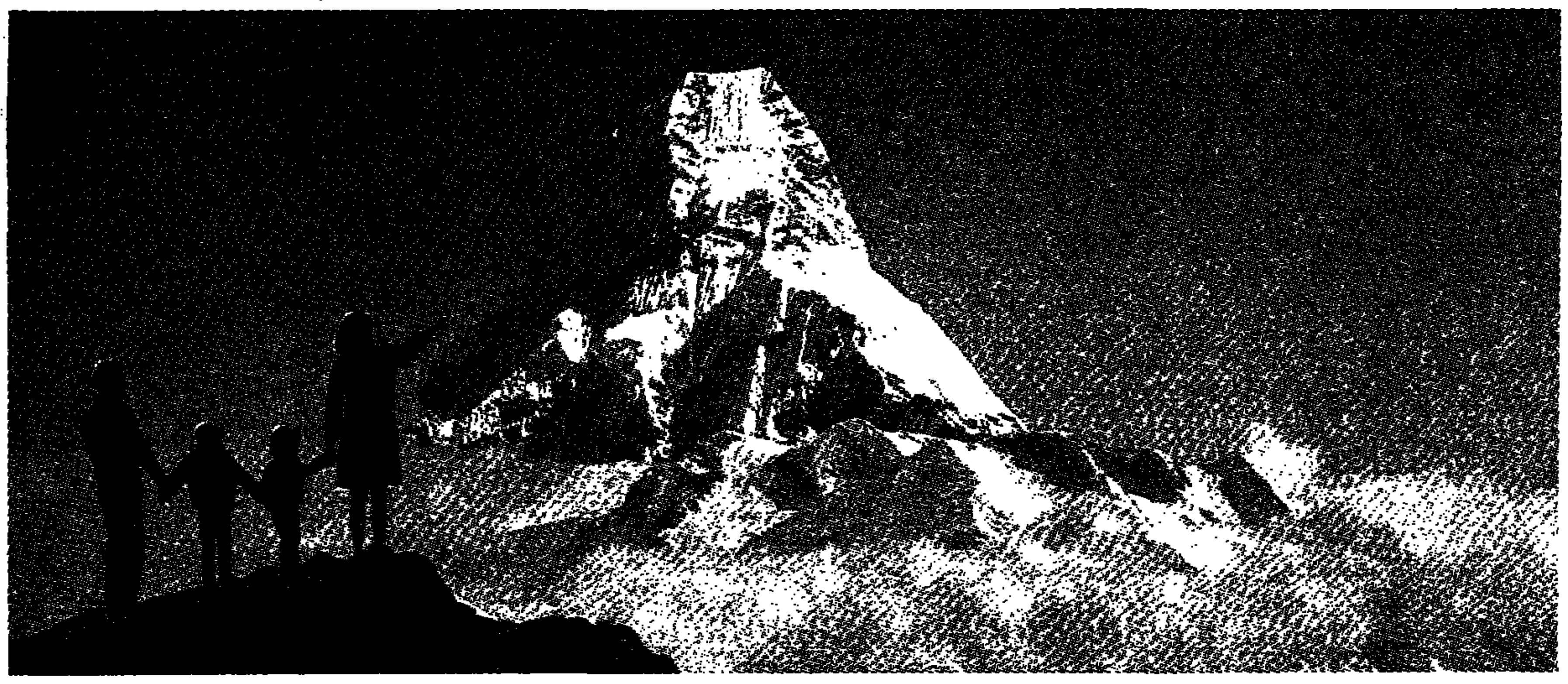

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10 Years	£6,000	**£11,306**	*£8,210*	£12,000	**£22,612**	*£16,419*	£30,000	**£56,531**	*£41,048*
15 Years	£9,000	**£31,721**	*£15,397*	£18,000	**£63,441**	*£30,794*	£45,000	**£158,604**	*£76,985*
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AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
51 Belmont Rd, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 1RZ
0895 259 783

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Grofund Amer	153.00	161.90	-4.20	0.26
Grofund Equity	230.20	243.60	-4.70	1.28
Grofund Euro	194.90	206.20	-2.30	0.40
Grofund Expt Bal	113.20	117.30	...	2.07
Grofund Gilt	71.36	73.57	-0.37	4.52
Grofund Japan	179.70	190.10	-2.70	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
Equity & Law Hse, Corpn St, Coventry
0203 553 231

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
General Acc	508.60	541.10†	-13.00	2.86
General Inc	448.50	477.20†	-11.40	2.86
UK Growth Acc	343.20	365.20†	-8.60	2.95
UK Growth Inc	235.00	250.00†	-5.80	2.95
Higher Inc Acc	642.30	683.40†	-13.80	4.06
Higher Inc Inc	371.30	395.00†	-8.00	4.06
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	178.70	188.70†	-1.20	6.22
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	86.86	91.75†	-0.55	6.22
Nth America	245.90	261.70†	-8.40	...
Far East	358.50	381.40†	-11.60	...
Europe	259.40	276.00†	-9.20	0.83
Brit Excell	67.63	71.95	-1.88	3.17
Brit Fndmtls Acc	95.69	101.80†	-1.60	5.02
Brit Fndmtls Inc	70.21	74.79†	-1.02	5.02
Global Opps	80.45	85.59	-2.30	0.22
Balanced Acc	51.95	55.27†	-0.89	3.03
Balanced Inc	50.89	54.14†	-0.87	3.03

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth 0345 717 373

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	125.90	133.60†	-0.80	5.99
High Inc Equity	153.50	164.20†	-3.70	4.79
Worldwide Bond	253.60	269.00	-6.50	3.90
Capital Growth				
American Growth	267.70	286.00	-8.70	.80
Asian Pacific	338.40	360.00	-13.30	...
Assets & Earnings	249.50	265.40	-5.20	2.66
Comdty & Energy	120.40	128.10	-0.50	.22
Euro Capital Inc	127.00	135.80	-3.20	.71
General	213.60	227.20	-6.20	2.39
Japan	128.60	136.80	-3.60	...
Mastertrust	137.10	146.60	-3.20	1.17
UK Growth Dist	115.90	124.00†	-0.40	2.36
US Emerging Cos	123.50	132.10	-4.80	...
Income & Growth	365.10	388.40	-10.40	3.22
Ethical	66.34	70.57	-1.12	2.73
International	115.40	122.80	-2.80	.69
Dividend & Growth	58.20	61.92	-1.33	4.54
Global Gwth & Sec	65.81	70.18	-0.08	2.27

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
14 Melville St, Edinburgh EH3 7NS
031 220 0733

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Small Cos	£17.03	£17.17	+35.00	...

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ
0800 833 580

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Aberdeen Portfolio	56.13	59.61	-1.25	0.83
Amer Inc & Growth	41.26	43.55†	-1.29	0.71
Cash	50.24	50.24†	+0.04	4.48
European	104.90	111.40	-2.00	...
Exempt	978.90	£10.44†	-1.10	1.77
Extra Income	48.89	52.30†	-0.79	4.55
Far East Emg Ecn	127.00	135.40	-1.80	0.50
Fixed Interest	21.65	23.32†	...	7.87
Fund Inv Tst	174.80	186.60†	-2.20	0.90
Japan	187.90	200.10	-3.80	...
Latin American	75.82	80.87	-2.63	0.59
Pacific	73.35	78.55	-1.59	0.34
Property Share	63.77	68.07	-0.88	1.68
UK Emerging Cos	62.14	66.34	-0.33	1.86
UK Growth	42.54	45.97†	-0.90	2.54
World Growth	71.54	76.36	-1.83	0.71
Ethical	59.88	63.93	-0.07	2.74
Aberdeen Gilt Inc	49.05	49.05†	-0.10	6.65

For Acuma Fds see United Friendly

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF
031 549 3232

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
British Growth	66.19	70.41†	-1.08	2.72
British Income	76.59	81.48†	-0.97	3.44
Select Portfolio	85.68	91.15†	-1.10	...

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
101 King's Road Brentwood CM14 4DR
0452 305 958

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amity Income	72.92	77.37†	-0.61	2.57
Income Builder Inc	65.37	69.54	-0.62	3.03

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL
IFA dlg: 0793 610 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	217.80	232.80†	-5.10	3.51
Capital	388.10	414.80†	-5.10	1.87
Balanced	650.90	695.80	-14.20	2.86
Accumulator	£11.79	£12.60†	-28.00	3.12
Income Trusts				
American Income	44.69	47.77	-1.30	3.85
High Income	375.90	401.80†	-9.50	3.84
Equity Income	213.30	228.00	-4.40	3.75
High Yield	229.50	245.30†	-9.50	3.83
Govt Securities	31.81	33.58†	-0.19	5.42
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	132.90	142.00†	-2.90	0.42
European Growth	33.71	35.92	-1.05	0.08
International	156.40	167.10	-4.50	0.23
Japan	218.40	232.90	-5.80	0.01
Pacific	412.60	441.00	-10.70	0.02
Secs of America	389.80	414.70	-9.50	0.45
Wwide Asset Val	47.07	50.31	-1.51	0.20
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	496.60	530.80	-10.70	2.45
Conv & Gilt	42.86	45.81	-0.39	4.78
Smaller Cos	160.00	171.00	-1.70	1.32
2nd Smaller Cos	151.40	161.80†	-1.50	1.26
Recovery	129.70	138.60†	-1.80	1.88
Met Min & Cdty	153.60	164.10†	-2.30	0.85
Oseas Earnings	331.70	354.50	-6.60	2.07
Technology	153.30	163.80†	-3.90	0.01
UK Special Sits	422.30	451.40	-8.90	2.00

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
Manor Royal, Crawley RH10 2QP 0293 526 911

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cntrctd Out Pens	96.45	100.20†	+2.59	1.45
Foundtn Persl Pens	61.36	63.75†	+1.10	4.60

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
77 South Audley St, London W1Y 6DX
071 600 0833

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Capital	67.07	71.35	-2.22	1.85
International	61.00	64.89	-1.21	...

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8EY
031 222 4242

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
America	271.70	292.40†	-7.00	...
Bond	105.70	111.20†	-1.50	7.57
Brit Smlr Cos	96.26	102.40	-0.60	1.37
Conv & Gen	64.36	68.69	-0.19	5.47
Energy	414.40	442.30	-16.60	0.22
Europe	217.70	232.10	-8.00	0.48
Euro Smlr Cos	101.90	108.70	-1.60	0.86
Income Gwth	325.70	347.60†	-6.80	4.53
Japan	333.20	354.50†	-7.20	...
Pacific	106.00	112.80	-3.40	0.76
UK Smllr Cos	50.17	53.37	-0.08	0.92
Japan Fd	760.30	783.40	-12.90	...
Mngd Fd	164.20	174.70†	-3.80	3.09

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
36 Queen St, London EC4R 1BN 071 489 8673

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Brit & Oseas	268.90	283.10	-10.70	1.31
Capital Gwth	107.20	112.80	-2.70	2.37
Wwide Opps	176.40	185.70	-2.90	0.43

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
11 Broadway, Stratford E15 4BJ 081 534 5544

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inv Fd Inc	324.90	338.40†	-14.90	2.95
European Bd Inc	88.32	91.42	+0.08	7.85
Exempt	69.32	73.95†	-3.73	4.48
Financial	69.76	74.61	-1.25	2.94
500	430.70	460.70	-3.50	2.44
General	258.40	276.40†	-4.90	2.76
Property	246.80	264.00	-4.50	6.11
Trustee	172.70	184.70	-3.40	2.64
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.20	100.20†	+0.10	4.62
Extra Income	110.50	118.20†	-2.00	4.26
Gilt & Fxd Int	55.70	57.56	-0.04	8.97
Income	499.60	534.40	-10.00	4.20
Income Builder	60.30	64.15	-0.98	4.93
Intl Income	61.39	65.31	-1.27	3.65
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	110.40	117.80	-3.00	2.79
Leisure	114.90	122.90	-1.60	1.44
Recovery	393.30	420.70	-6.00	2.59
Smllr Cos Inc	41.13	44.11	-0.04	2.11
Special Sits	263.00	281.30	-5.20	1.72
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	119.80	127.10	-3.40	0.67
Aust Acc	239.50	254.80	-3.30	2.16
Aust Inc	148.90	158.40	-2.10	2.16
Euro Gwth Inc	145.40	154.30	-1.40	0.74
Japan & Gen Inc	186.50	199.60	-3.20	...
Japan Spec Sits	87.33	92.51	-1.64	...
Univ Tech Inc	77.83	82.71	-1.37	0.30
Worldwide	167.00	177.20	-4.30	0.71

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ
081 658 9002

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Growth	86.74	92.22	-2.27	...
Amer Smllr Cos	120.30	129.10	-4.70	...
Cash Trust	50.17	50.17	...	4.10
Convertibles	54.64	58.43†	-0.19	5.50
Eastern	284.90	306.40	-9.60	0.10
Equity Income	84.36	89.63†	-2.99	5.10
European Growth	278.40	295.40	-10.30	1.00
Europe	209.90	223.80	-4.90	0.60
German Growth	68.96	73.30	-1.92	0.10
Global Bond	60.72	63.98	-0.51	6.40
Global Growth	120.90	128.90	-3.00	...
Japan Growth	209.30	223.30	-3.40	...
Japan Sunrise	187.10	198.90	-2.00	...
Korea Trust	86.62	96.78	-3.42	...
Portfolio	127.20	136.20	-2.20	1.60
UK Growth	82.77	88.05	-0.87	1.40
UK Smaller Cos	85.56	91.50†	-0.77	1.50
Select Managers	72.08	77.16	-1.23	1.10

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
26-34 Old Street, London EC1V 9HL
071 250 3300

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Gwth Port Inc	75.33	80.14	-1.89	...
Special Oppor Inc	54.99	58.39	-1.94	...

BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD
5 Giltspur St, London EC1A 9DE 071 236 6441

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Special Sits	165.30	176.80	-4.80	1.49
Dividend	79.92	85.48	-1.22	3.88
Inv Gth & Inc	203.60	217.80	-4.80	3.17
UK & Gen	42.01	44.93	-0.78	1.51
Fund of Funds	63.68	68.11†	-0.42	...

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
50 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR
041 223 6020

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced Growth	99.61	105.41†	-2.42	1.78
Smaller Cos	100.31	106.15	-0.23	1.33
Higher Yield	42.63	45.11†	-0.66	3.65
American Gth Inc	66.97	70.87	-1.55	...
European Growth	130.67	138.49†	-1.60	0.06
Global Bond Inc	25.64	27.07	-0.48	6.52
Mngd Ptfolio Inc	40.77	43.13†	-0.70	1.09
Int Spec Opps	114.40	121.06	-1.68	0.44
Pacific Gth	131.91	139.59	-3.34	...
Formerly LAS				
UK General	72.24	76.45	-1.68	2.09
Japan	66.11	69.96	-1.07	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	92.78	94.68	-0.66	6.29

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL
071 480 7236

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Short Dated Gilt	63.86	64.69	-0.19	6.59

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH
061 837 5060

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Environ	146.10	155.50	-1.50	1.66
UK Growth	156.70	166.80	-3.80	2.37
UK Income	124.30	132.30†	-2.30	4.58

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
0707 651 122

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Can Gen Dist	177.40	188.10	-4.30	2.11
-do- Income Dist	101.00	107.10†	-3.90	4.67
Gilt & Fxd Int	38.59	40.90	-0.33	6.65

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF
061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5362

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American & Gen	142.10	151.20†	-4.10	...
European Inc	74.56	79.12	-1.88	0.40
Smaller Cos Inc	77.47	82.62†	-0.11	1.91
Growth	397.10	422.50†	-5.20	2.39
Income & Growth	386.10	410.90	-4.60	4.04
Japan & Gen	76.31	81.02	-1.42	...
Master Portfolio	£100.13	£104.16†	-1.62	1.99
Special Sits	92.00	97.88	-1.01	2.35
High Yield	£12.56	£12.95	-23.00	4.48

CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS
Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh
031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 833 581

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gwth Tst	33.81	36.15†	-0.86	0.28
Cash Income	50.60	50.60	+0.03	5.09
European Gwth	38.16	40.68	-1.13	0.15
Income & Gwth Inc	25.66	27.44†	-0.53	4.51
Intnl Gwth	29.84	31.91	-0.78	0.13
Japan Gwth	28.61	30.59	-0.52	...
Managed Tst Inc	46.20	49.41	-1.34	1.03
Oriental Opps Inc	144.40	154.40	-4.20	...
Property Shares	35.91	38.40	-2.27	0.65
Smaller Cos	30.40	32.51†	-0.15	1.57
UK Growth Tst	34.43	36.12	-0.41	2.39
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	69.58	74.41	-2.00	1.40
Cap Hse UK Inc	64.73	69.23	-1.58	2.53
Exempt (£)	29.84	30.70	...	1.76
Formerly Brown Shipley				
Financial	137.50	147.00	-2.30	1.68
Foundation	87.44	93.51†	-1.57	2.39
German	49.34	52.53	-1.36	...
High Income	70.94	75.87†	-1.18	5.80
Mngd Ptfolio Inc	101.70	108.70	...	1.07
Mngd Ptfolio Acc	194.40	207.90	...	1.07
Monthly Income	79.12	84.62	-1.49	4.17

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH
071 606 0708

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cazenove Portfolio	80.10	85.42	-0.38	2.37
American Portfolio	84.24	89.75	-1.60	1.24
European Portfolio	92.63	98.60†	-0.36	0.90
Japanese Portfolio	68.87	73.20	-1.39	...
Pacific Portfolio	140.03	150.57	-3.39	0.76
UK Inc & Growth	72.49	77.60†	-0.13	3.68
Utility & Bond	54.97	55.53	-0.02	6.13

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5080

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK General Tst	62.05	66.01	-1.61	3.03

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD
071 837 7667

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Growth	129.24	140.71	-1.92	...
UK Income	105.60	115.56	+0.69	5.20

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Beckman Intl	70.87	75.27†	-0.03	2.22
Beck Bio-Tech	24.87	27.64	-1.71	...
Acorn Ethical Tst	145.60	153.26	-1.42	1.32
City Fin Assets	67.87	72.20†	+1.04	1.08
City Fin America	78.76	82.90	-1.37	...
City Fin Intl	76.86	80.91†	+0.24	0.49
City Fin Japan	172.97	182.07	-2.02	...
Friars Hse Cap	261.43	282.63	+5.77	1.51
Friars Hse Inc	195.60	208.09	+3.65	3.91
Buckley Wrld Grth	132.92	141.40†	+0.44	0.08
Falmnt Cap Gth	139.10	146.42	-0.69	...
-do- Inc & Gth	108.27	113.97	+0.89	1.61
Fairmount Intl	155.91	164.12	-1.33	...
City Fin Ptflo Inc	53.98	57.43	-0.25	4.28

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
10 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0342 412 144

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Emerging Markets	56.75	60.21	-1.34	...

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gwth	51.48	55.06	-2.02	...
Atlas Mngd Gwth	35.77	38.26	-0.89	0.24
Dragon Growth	70.07	74.94	-1.88	0.21
Equity High Inc	78.10	83.09	-1.70	4.02
European Gwth	47.89	50.95	-1.59	0.90
Evergreen	28.09	30.04	-0.68	...
General Equity	78.24	83.01	-1.66	2.65
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	23.44	24.77†	-0.22	8.38
Japan Growth	54.22	57.99	-0.80	...
Pedigree Gwth	47.71	50.75	-1.01	2.72
Ped Sm Cos Inc	30.01	31.93	-0.18	1.08
Retirement Inc	24.71	26.43	-0.46	5.66
Special Sits	35.84	38.33	-0.70	1.91
UK & Overseas	46.34	49.30	-1.20	1.14

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY
0634 898 000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Capital	62.67	67.02	-1.47	2.37
Income	56.90	60.86	-1.18	4.34

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ 081 686 9818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	150.08	159.66†	-3.29	5.62
Fixed & Convertible	38.56	41.02†	-0.12	7.68
Monthly Inc Plus	46.62	49.60	-0.07	9.03
Preference Share	44.82	47.68†	+0.01	7.69
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	117.24	124.72†	-2.43	7.49
Managed Fund	63.98	68.06†	-1.37	2.61
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	38.10	40.53	-0.59	1.67
UK & General	73.94	78.66†	-2.39	2.44
UK Growth	131.34	139.72	-3.04	2.44
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	179.61	191.07	-6.23	0.26
Far Eastern Grth	135.85	144.52	-4.21	...
Global Bond	72.57	77.14†	-3.29	6.77
Japan Growth	127.82	135.98	-2.47	...
North Amer Grth	147.90	157.34	-3.64	...
Oriental Growth	78.09	83.07	-2.58	...
Worldwide Growth	60.96	64.85†	-1.96	0.08
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.62	91.62†	+0.07	4.66
Homemaker Fund	73.99	78.71	-1.70	1.92
Quilter Fund	122.53	130.35	-2.97	3.01

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN
0438 744 840

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth Inc	55.29	58.81	-1.36	3.00
High Income	31.77	33.79†	-0.55	4.90
Japan	37.06	39.42	-0.56	...
Smaller Cos Inc	29.95	31.86	-0.10	2.40
Smaller Cos	31.41	33.41	-0.11	2.40
North American	31.14	33.12	-0.97	0.30
European	34.88	37.10	-1.32	0.50

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX
071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Consistent UT	29.84	32.01	+0.04	3.37

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
1 King St, Manchester M60 3AH 0800 526 358

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth	135.90	144.60†	-2.10	2.03
Income	67.94	72.28	-1.26	5.11
European	58.31	62.04	-1.72	0.96
Recovery	140.30	149.30	-2.90	1.86

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NJ 071 283 9494

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Dist	801.30	815.00†	+31.60	3.93

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
0277 690 370

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fellowship Tst	67.17	71.45†	-0.63	1.37
Income	222.20	236.30†	-7.50	4.92
Smaller Cos	143.80	152.90	-0.90	0.88
Inv Portfolio	74.87	79.64	-1.62	1.50
High Income Port	64.86	68.99	-0.91	5.03

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XS
071 410 0177

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Euro Small Cos	£15.02	£15.41	-6.90	...
Japan Small Cos	£13.02	£13.28	-1.50	...
UK Small Cos	£17.29	£18.04	+1.50	...
US Small Cos	£15.32	£15.76	-34.90	...

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
66 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL
071 377 8819

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Disc Inc	199.60	210.20	...	2.72

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
25, Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2500

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European Gwth	258.70	273.70	-8.00	1.02
New Asia	216.90	231.20†	-6.60	...
Japan Growth	126.90	135.00†	-2.30	...
Jap Smllr Co	532.50	566.00	-11.70	...
Nth Amer	234.50	249.60	-5.90	0.95
Shtrd Asia Pac Mt	121.30	128.20	-3.10	0.35
UK Inc & Grth	200.60	214.10	-4.50	2.81

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 555

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Balanced Inc	133.70	142.20	-2.80	1.88
UK High Inc Inc	143.00	152.10	-3.40	4.73
UK Pref & F I Inc	56.23	59.69	-0.30	5.25
Envrnmntl Opps	79.77	84.86	-1.09	1.10

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh
0345 090 526

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	113.10	120.00	-3.70	1.46
Convertibles	20.31	21.58†	-0.12	6.95
Equity Income	120.20	127.70†	-2.20	4.15
EuroFund	42.77	45.35	-1.33	0.44
Financial	44.15	46.91†	+1.01	1.71
Growth & Inc	219.50	233.20	-5.00	3.30
High Dist	147.30	156.50	-3.10	4.79
International	388.70	413.00	-9.90	0.12
Int Cap Inc	92.02	98.23†	-2.17	3.05
Latin American	48.62	51.66	-1.66	...
Pacific	89.24	94.82†	-1.78	...
Preference Share	21.33	22.66†	-0.25	7.28
Tokyo	238.60	253.10†	-6.00	...
UK Smaller Cos	213.30	226.60	-1.10	1.21

ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD
28 Ely Place, London EC1N 6RL
071 242 0242

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Elcon Trust	207.74	222.08	...	0.99

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU
071 373 7261

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Endurance Fd	196.70	209.30†	-2.60	0.52

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QN
0296 431 480

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	74.54	78.46	-3.18	1.75
Ethical Tst	43.58	45.87	-1.22	1.26
Far Eastern	304.44	320.46	-6.55	1.65
High Income	126.50	133.25	-3.06	4.83
Intl Growth	116.76	122.90	-2.15	1.35
North American	102.90	108.32	-3.35	1.20
Pelican	109.85	115.63†	-2.53	3.33
Smaller Cos	68.69	72.30	+0.03	2.31
Special Sits	85.85	90.37†	-0.10	2.42
Tst of Inv Tsts	180.01	189.48	-2.71	1.48

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Smaller Cos Inc	203.01	211.47†	-3.14	1.41
Smaller Cos Acc	355.30	370.10†	-5.50	1.41
Recovery	51.96	54.12	-0.74	1.20
Recovery Acc	52.08	54.25	-0.74	1.20

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB
0392 412 144

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced	106.22	113.00	-0.51	6.00
Capital Growth	80.33	86.14†	-1.22	...
Fd of Inv Tsts	44.14	47.08	-0.69	0.61
High Income	43.89	47.00†	-0.52	9.78
Warrant	57.93	62.03†	-0.86	...
Zero Preference	34.66	36.77	-0.06	...

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
16 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 220 707

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Family Asset Tst	72.60	77.22†	-1.15	2.43
Family Income Tst	46.57	46.57†	-0.91	5.84
Family Trust	84.52	89.91†	...	1.06
United Charities	351.20	367.10†	-2.80	2.70

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ
Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161
Broker Dealings 0800 414 181

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	4.70
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.22	26.45†	-0.06	8.09
Intl Bond	26.39	27.39†	-0.71	5.53
Income Funds				
High Income	24.77	26.08†	-0.16	5.38
Income Plus	108.80	115.70	-1.60	3.76
Amer Eq Inc	44.07	46.68	-1.32	1.04
European Income	41.15	43.76	-0.71	2.16
Far East Inc	60.98	64.97	-1.34	2.37
Global Convertible	22.07	23.55†	-0.14	3.78
UK Div Grth	23.00	24.46	-0.24	1.26
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	66.26	70.68†	-1.09	...
American	221.70	235.20	-3.90	...
Amer Spec Sits	107.00	114.20	-2.20	...
Japan Smaller Cos	42.91	45.78	-0.97	...
European	160.40	170.60†	-1.10	...
European Opps	60.69	64.53	-0.90	...
Global Priv	23.80	25.29	-0.36	1.41
UK Growth	85.27	90.67	-1.35	...
Growth & Inc	139.30	148.20	-1.70	2.65
Intl PEP	35.12	37.36	-0.51	...
Japan Spec Sits	98.28	104.90	-1.00	...
Japan	202.00	215.60	-4.10	...
Managed Intl	264.10	281.50	-5.40	...
Moneybuilder	51.61	54.88	-0.72	...
Recovery	46.30	49.23	-0.30	...
South E Asia	149.10	159.10†	-7.00	...
Special Sits	494.90	526.30	-8.40	...
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	106.85	106.85	+0.08	4.70

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
20 Finsbury St, Lond EC2Y 9AQ 071 814 2780

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced	134.30	137.50†	-0.50	1.55
Inc Ptfolio	82.96	84.51	-1.28	3.71
Cap Ptfolio	139.20	141.90	-3.70	0.41
General Opps	119.10	121.20†	-2.10	3.43
Growth Inc	29.57	30.26	-0.69	1.76
Private Portfolio	387.90	396.80	-3.70	1.49

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Admin, PO Box 2001, Brentwood, Essex
CM13 1XR Enq: 071 454 1434 Dlg: 0277 261 010
Hypo Foreign & Colonial

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	108.00	114.30	-3.50	0.54
Emrg Asian	172.10	184.10†	-5.70	...
High Income	21.14	22.50†	-0.19	10.00
Oseas Income	87.49	93.34	-2.42	3.06
UK Growth	104.40	111.70	-2.10	1.67
UK Income	100.60	107.30	-2.40	4.29
US Smaller Cos	272.30	291.10†	-9.20	...

FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX
071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
High Inc Eqty	45.86	48.79	-1.21	3.45
-do- Inv Tst Inc	74.55	79.31†	-0.74	4.16
Intl Growth	70.32	74.81	-1.19	1.20
Investment Trust	89.69	95.41†	-0.94	...
UK Smaller Cos	76.33	81.20	-0.53	1.32

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT
071 374 4100

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Growth	50.91	54.43	-1.45	...
(Accum Units)	50.91	54.43	-1.45	...
Amer Smllr Cos	433.70	463.80	-14.10	...
(Accum Units)	443.10	473.80	-14.40	...
Capital Tst	300.00	319.10	-1.60	1.58
(Accum Units)	428.40	455.60	-2.30	1.58
Contl Smllr Cos	57.38	61.80	-0.48	0.58
(Accum Units)	60.34	64.99	-0.50	0.58
Convertible	127.90	136.00	-0.20	5.54
(Accum Units)	252.30	268.30	-0.30	5.54
Emerging Markets	80.17	85.65	-2.45	...
(Accum Units)	80.24	85.72	-2.45	...
European	113.30	120.40	-3.20	...
(Accum Units)	118.70	126.10	-3.40	...
Extra Income	315.80	335.90	-4.30	3.97
(Accum Units)	467.40	497.10	-6.20	3.97
Financial	114.00	122.70	-3.20	0.19
(Accum Units)	120.10	129.30	-3.30	0.19
Gilt Trust	59.91	61.78	-0.31	6.47
(Accum Units)	83.66	86.28	-0.43	6.47
Health Fund Inc	118.50	126.60	-5.40	...
(Accum Units)	118.50	126.60	-5.40	...
Income & Growth	182.80	194.40	-3.80	3.45
(Accum Units)	268.90	286.00	-5.60	3.45
Intl Growth	343.30	366.70†	-10.30	...
(Accum Units)	381.30	407.20†	-11.50	...
Japan & Gen	187.70	201.00	-5.20	...
(Accum Units)	189.60	203.00	-5.30	...
Managed Port Inc	100.70	106.00	-1.70	1.44
(Accum Units)	106.80	112.40	-1.80	1.44
Monthly Income	156.20	166.10	-1.80	4.00
Quarterly Income	50.67	53.89	-0.91	4.50
(Accum Units)	53.38	56.78	-0.96	4.50
Recovery	335.40	358.60	-4.90	0.04
(Accum Units)	394.80	422.20	-5.70	0.04
UK Growth	49.72	53.13	-1.00	2.79
(Accum Units)	51.43	54.96	-1.03	2.79

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Enterprise Hse, Isambard Brunel Rd, Pmth
Dealing: 0705 881330 Enqs: 0705 881342

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FP Equity Dist	363.60	386.80	-9.50	3.10
-do- Accum	758.90	807.30	-19.80	3.10
FP Euro Gth Dist	134.80	143.30	-2.20	0.24
-do- Accum	140.40	149.30	-2.40	0.24
FP Fixed Int Dist	127.10	134.40†	-0.30	7.29
-do- Accum	230.10	243.30†	-0.80	7.29
FP Intl Gth Dist	90.71	96.50	-1.99	0.53
-do- Accum	94.57	100.60	-2.10	0.53
FP Nth Amer Dist	173.70	184.00	-5.90	0.88
-do- Accum	190.60	201.90	-6.40	0.88
FP Pac Basin Dist	314.90	334.90	-6.60	0.02
-do- Accum	321.20	341.70	-6.80	0.02
Stewardship Dist	318.10	338.40	-1.80	2.14
-do- Accum	384.80	409.30	-2.10	2.14
Stwrdshp Inc Dist	69.83	74.28	-0.42	3.70
-do- Accum	89.22	94.91	-0.55	3.70
N Am Stshp Dist	92.66	98.57	-3.33	0.62
-do- Accum	98.14	104.40	-3.50	0.62
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	105.60	112.30	-0.90	0.88
Open Cap Gth Acc	109.00	115.90	-0.90	0.0
Cap Gth Inc Inc	101.60	108.00	-0.70	1.71
Cap Gth Inc Acc	103.20	109.70	-0.80	1.71
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic	103.40	109.90	-0.90	1.66
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac	105.00	111.60	-0.80	1.66
NM Unit Trusts				
American	40.90	43.51	-1.29	1.47
Australian	309.40	331.90	-8.00	0.0
Conscience	68.87	73.49	-0.35	0.44
European	190.60	202.70	-5.30	0.66
Extra Income	68.49	73.09†	-0.96	6.07
Gilt & FI	54.75	57.90	-0.32	6.40
Gold	56.34	60.57	-1.14	0.0
Income	51.82	55.27	-1.05	4.03
Intnl	31.88	34.02	-0.84	0.62
Jap Smaller Cos	396.90	423.30	-9.40	0.0
Sing & Malaysian	261.20	280.10	-13.20	0.0
Smaller Cos	28.80	30.96	-0.83	0.61
Special Sits	33.95	36.50†	-0.76	1.88
Sterling Deposit	100.40	100.40†	...	4.80
Tokyo	91.84	97.96	-1.92	0.0
UK Equity	163.50	174.40	-3.50	2.22
US Smaller Cos	105.30	112.60	-2.60	0.0

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
PO Box 237, York YO1 1LA 0345 581 106/7

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
GANDA	224.40	237.30	-6.40	2.49
Cash	49.62	50.36	+0.03	3.77
Growth Portfolio	76.22	80.80	-1.66	0.72
Income Portfolio	61.00	64.51	-1.80	4.57

GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD
Alban Gate, 14th Floor, 125 London Wall, London EC2Y 5AS 071 710 4567
Dealing: 071 626 9431

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amer Spec Sits	163.30	174.70	-6.00	...
European	539.20	576.50	-4.70	0.47
Far East & Gen	286.00	305.90	-10.40	...
Germany	115.80	122.80†	-3.40	...
Income Inc	143.90	153.90	-1.90	4.59
International	335.50	358.90	-8.70	0.19
Intl Income	76.27	80.91	-2.28	4.27
Japan & General	415.70	442.30	-4.60	...
Korean Securities	77.14	82.51	-3.98	...
Smllr Cos Div Inc	45.79	48.98	-0.92	4.86
UK Capital (Inc)	163.30	174.70	-0.70	1.00
UK Spec Sits	81.93	87.63†	+0.18	0.65
US & General	128.20	136.50	-3.00	...
Wwide Spec Sits	155.70	166.30	-3.40	...

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument St, London EC3R 8AJ 071 782 2000 Digs only: 0277 264 421
Investor Services: Freephone 0800 289 336

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	45.58	47.68	-1.28	2.47
Cash Trust	134.98	134.98	+0.10	4.93
Practical Inv Inc	110.27	117.94†	-1.22	3.52
UK Index	138.83	141.20†	-3.52	3.27
UK Smaller Cos	113.43	121.33†	-0.58	1.31
Income Funds				
Preference Share	23.38	25.00†	-0.55	9.80
High Income	31.79	34.00	-0.29	5.35
UK Equity Income	130.34	139.40†	-2.01	3.65
Global Bond	26.43	27.40†	-0.52	5.44
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	57.52	61.52	-1.88	...
Global Inc & Gth	127.77	135.92†	-3.72	1.98
Gold & Intl Res	122.21	130.71	-0.32	...
Global Utilities	130.13	139.14	-3.25	1.09
Overseas Funds				
American	131.01	139.76	-4.96	1.00
European	93.13	98.83	-2.73	1.00
Euro Sel Opps	133.00	141.45	-2.80	...
Amer Emerging	89.56	95.79	-3.83	...
Hong Kong	137.42	146.96	-8.48	1.46
Japan	255.08	270.00	-5.46	...
Pacific Growth	225.48	241.16	-9.28	1.29
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	203.12	203.12	-3.05	2.15
Long Term Bal	220.51	220.51†	-5.50	2.71
Med Term Bal	186.99	186.99†	-2.86	3.45
UK Equity	223.26	223.26	-5.85	2.72
UK Emerging Cos	136.26	136.26	-0.06	2.24
American	213.06	213.06†	-4.10	1.53
Japan	130.65	130.65†	-4.63	...
European	243.58	243.58†	-6.83	0.99
Index Linked Gilt	162.41	162.41	-0.15	2.96
Fixed Interest	149.31	149.31	-1.32	6.89
Amer Emergs	240.16	240.16	-7.38	...
Pacific	243.45	243.45	-8.23	0.60
Emerging Mkts	169.99	169.99	-6.21	0.11
Index Strat Japan	156.97	156.97	-2.07	0.23
-do- Pacific Rim	190.55	190.55	-4.60	1.00
-do- Cont Europe	141.38	141.38	-0.75	1.94
Index Strat USA	122.39	122.39	-2.24	2.51
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	95.83	101.95	-2.53	...
Med Term Bal	88.82	94.48	-1.45	...
Long Term Bal	99.17	105.50	-2.63	...
UK Equity	103.11	109.70	-2.87	...
UK Emerging Cos	63.86	67.93	-0.03	...
American	98.79	105.10	-3.90	...
Japan	62.73	66.74	-2.36	...
European	101.28	107.74	-3.02	...
Fixed Interest	75.21	80.01	-0.71	...
Index Linked Gilt	72.01	76.60	-0.07	...
Deposit	78.96	84.00	+0.07	...
Broker Unit Trusts				
Berkeley Intl Grth	122.82	129.28	+3.09	...
Berkeley Income	109.78	115.56	-0.38	2.21
BWH Intl	136.53	143.72†	-0.68	0.59
Brcliff Gth Port Inc	59.12	62.40†	-0.27	1.25
-do- Inc Port Inc	54.60	57.63†	-0.78	3.40
-do- Wwide Port	52.50	55.41	-0.34	0.50
Shaw Utilities	57.22	60.39	+0.26	2.55

GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
GAM Sterling Management Ltd
12 St James's Place, London SW1 071 493 9990

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
& Intl Inc	532.06	566.02	-0.50	0.85
European Inc	142.19	151.27	-3.90	0.92
Amalgam Inc	145.49	154.04	-2.20	...
N America Inc	310.56	330.38	-13.05	...
Far East Inc	356.82	379.60	-9.00	...
UK Divid Inc	172.76	183.79	-2.40	1.30

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD
Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 071 378 7979 Dealing: 071 407 7888

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity Inc	85.69	90.31	-1.03	4.73
UK Small Cos	45.52	48.68†	-2.11	0.42
British Growth	50.48	53.32	-1.31	2.48
American Gwth	151.44	161.97	-3.44	...
Japan Gwth	82.18	87.90	-1.63	...
Greater China	195.20	208.77	-6.54	...
Pacific Strategy	173.77	185.85	-5.78	...
European Gwth	82.13	87.84†	-1.10	0.12
Intl Growth	142.82	152.75	-2.67	...
US Index (£)	12.26	12.92	-0.39	3.50
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	72.30	76.61	-0.78	2.23
Monthly Income	37.36	39.80†	-0.77	10.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0033				
Grd UK Index (£)	9.69	10.21	-0.77	3.60

GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
Mint Hse, 77 Mansell St, London E1 8AF
071 488 1212

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Small Cos	89.85	95.58	-2.86	1.23

GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD
36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE
071 538 9668

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cash	136.80	136.80†	+0.10	3.65
European	460.50	491.90	-11.80	0.10
Gilt & Fixed	122.60	130.10	-0.80	5.09
Growth Equity	316.90	338.50	-8.30	1.97
Income Trust	122.70	131.00	-2.80	3.14
International	176.70	188.70†	-4.70	...
Japan Trust	133.30	142.40	-2.00	...
Nth American	242.20	258.70†	-8.40	0.25
Pacific	561.30	599.50†	-14.50	...
Guardhill	463.70	495.40	-11.20	2.00

GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD
5 Gainsford Street, London SE1 2NE
071 522 2129

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
EMU Trust	98.51	102.24	+0.23	7.01
Global High Inc	97.04	100.72	-1.32	7.31
Prem Fixed Int	98.57	102.33	-0.08	8.74
Eqty & Bond Inc	97.48	103.05†	+1.23	5.07
European Growth	98.00	104.20	-1.24	...
Intl PEP Trust	57.53	61.17	-1.72	...
High Income	117.83	125.29	+2.02	4.02
Recovery	366.60	392.00†	-5.20	1.44
St Vinc High Inc	123.96	125.81	-1.53	6.94
Tmp Bar Emer Co	244.10	259.50	+0.10	1.47
Tmp Br Sm Co In	360.60	367.20	-1.60	1.93
Glob Priv Tst	90.48	96.20†	-1.83	1.24
Inc Share Tst	91.08	96.84†	-0.73	8.21

HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 390

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Model Ptfolio	192.70	204.50	-5.20	2.68
Smaller Cos	32.57	34.65	-0.23	0.95

HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT
PO Box 2157, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4ET
Enquiries: 0277 263 290 Dealing: 0277 234 772

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Funds				
Special Sits	281.28	300.96	-0.97	1.45
Best of British	60.26	64.05	-1.55	2.71
UK Smaller Cos	120.70	129.75	-0.69	1.28
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth	263.15	280.24	-5.78	3.20
High Income	304.32	325.30†	-8.92	4.09
Extra Income	264.34	281.12†	-3.66	5.97
Pref & Gilt	42.84	45.83†	-1.04	9.44
International				
International	264.75	282.51†	-6.77	0.07
Global Bond	50.44	53.62†	-0.56	5.57
Family of Funds	80.47	86.14	-0.40	0.12
Global Tech	140.67	150.44	-1.87	...
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	185.99	198.89	-6.29	...
European	447.24	474.40†	-8.16	0.51
European Income	77.54	82.14	-1.85	2.76
Euro Smlr Cos	146.55	157.14†	+0.36	...
Eur Sp Sits	67.37	71.67†	-0.90	0.10
Japan Trust	229.47	244.01	-3.67	...
Japan Special Sits	257.95	274.60†	-2.58	...
Pacific Smlr Cos	272.66	290.06†	-6.45	...
North American	219.07	232.78	-6.36	0.38
American Smaller	97.48	104.20†	-3.15	...
Henderson Tst Pension Portfolio				
American Growth	51.78	54.88	-1.66	...
Eur Sp Sits	58.07	61.55	-0.77	...
General Growth	40.54	42.97	-1.03	...
Global Tech	55.03	58.33	-0.72	...
Income Growth	40.01	42.41	-0.82	...
Japan Growth	28.07	29.75	-0.44	...
Overseas Growth	38.68	41.00	-0.96	...
Smaller Cos	21.53	22.82	+0.11	...
Special Opps	28.62	30.33	-0.15	...
Wwide Sp Sits	48.26	51.15	-1.21	...

HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon
081 686 4355

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
British	93.45	99.89	-1.71	1.82
Capital	165.10	176.50	-4.30	1.50
Dollar	318.60	340.70†	-10.30	...
European	217.50	232.60	-5.60	...
Far East	325.80	348.40	-8.40	0.15
Financial	771.20	824.80†	-13.10	1.34
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.43	25.40†	-0.48	7.95
High Yield	99.83	106.70	-1.80	4.26
Income & Growth	135.70	145.10	-2.40	3.54
International	246.40	263.50	-6.20	...
Japanese General	215.30	230.10	-3.10	...
Japan Tech	88.99	95.17	-0.87	...
Nat Resources	78.45	83.90	+0.07	...
Portfolio	69.14	73.94	-1.19	1.49
Security	308.40	329.80	-4.60	1.78
Smaller Cos	121.30	129.70†	-0.10	1.08
Special Sits	142.10	151.90	-2.10	1.54
UK Emerging Cos	87.50	93.58	+0.46	0.54
US Smaller Cos	71.87	76.86	-2.85	...

HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
6 Bevis Marks, London EC3A 7QP
Advisers: 0800 181 890 Inv: 0800 289 505
Dealing: 071 955 5095

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Funds				
Capital	547.20	584.00†	-14.50	2.17
Income	530.70	566.40†	-10.20	4.31
Footsie Fund	50.43	53.30	-1.44	2.71
Trixie Index	108.30	115.60	+0.80	1.89
UK Index	131.60	140.40	-3.10	3.10
International Funds				
American Growth	449.40	479.60	-9.60	0.63
American Index	184.40	196.50	-4.80	1.39
Balanced				
European Growth	107.90	114.80	-2.20	...
Eurotrack 100	147.30	156.60	-5.00	1.11
Global Bond	19.85	20.95	-0.41	7.34

New Singer & Friedlander UK Emerging Leaders Fund.

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	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Japan Growth	299.60	319.50†	-9.00	...
Japan Index	82.67	88.23	-1.18	0.09
Japan Smllr Cos	38.48	41.07	-0.95	...
International High Growth Funds				
Asian	57.92	61.81	-1.35	0.15
Hong Kong Gwth	100.20	106.90	-5.60	0.77
Spore & Mlysn Gth	79.39	84.73	-2.26	...
Tiger Index	210.20	224.30†	-5.80	0.22

INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD
11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR
071 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	28.60	29.68	-0.13	1.08
General Funds				
Managed	69.49	72.13	-1.45	2.47
Rupert Child Fnd	79.55	82.57	-2.28	2.45
UK Growth	56.70	58.85	-1.41	2.23
High Income Funds				
Cashbox (Dist)	50.33	50.33	+0.03	4.22
Cashbox (Acc)	58.46	59.46	+0.04	4.22
UK Extra Inc	80.84	83.91	-1.23	5.49
Gilt & Fixed Int	25.37	26.15†	-0.08	7.99
UK Inc & Gwth	38.11	39.55†	-1.35	4.05
UK Income	318.50	330.60†	-6.00	3.71
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	46.84	48.51†	-1.16	0.23
Amer Smllr Cos	102.00	105.80	-2.30	...
(Accum Units)	103.00	106.90	-2.40	...
Europe Gth	145.90	151.10	-3.80	...
(Accum Units)	150.80	156.20	-3.90	...
Euro Smaller Cos	28.04	29.10†	-0.41	...
French Growth	74.31	77.13	-2.83	...
Accum Units	79.60	82.62	-3.05	...
H Kong & China	94.33	97.93	-4.42	1.64
Intl Growth	56.00	58.12	-1.75	0.58
(Accum Units)	56.46	58.60†	-1.57	0.58
Japan Gth	36.35	37.73	-0.73	...
Accum Units	36.35	37.73	-0.73	...
Japan Smaller Cos	45.99	47.73†	-0.78	...
Glob Emg Mkts	115.90	120.30	-3.70	...
Accum Units	116.90	121.30	-3.70	...
SE Asia	336.60	349.30	-11.30	0.11
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	50.48	52.00	-0.25	5.10

JUPITER UT MGRS LTD
197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RB
071 581 3020

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Cap	128.50	136.60	-8.00	...
Income	141.15	150.16	-1.61	3.99
UK Growth	52.13	55.45	-0.79	0.97
International	82.54	87.90	-1.72	0.26
Ecology	76.59	81.47†	-1.21	1.32
European	114.99	121.99	-2.52	...
Far Eastern	335.60	356.90	-3.90	...

KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS
10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3
Dealers: 071 956 7354

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	47.85	50.90†	-0.92	7.54
Gilt Yield	111.40	117.60†	-0.70	7.06
Global Income	211.70	225.20	-2.00	4.04
High Yield	131.00	139.40	-2.70	6.32
Smllr Cos Div	51.20	54.47	-0.36	2.91
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	84.87	90.29	-4.20	...
North American	69.94	74.40	-2.97	0.27
European Special	92.59	98.50	-2.30	0.15
European	145.40	154.70	-4.60	0.39
General	256.40	272.80	-6.30	3.30
Japan	434.00	461.70	-10.90	...
Japanese Special	267.60	284.70	-8.80	...
Master Accum	231.60	246.40†	-5.70	1.86
Pacific	345.40	367.40†	-9.20	...
Smaller Cos	108.40	115.30	-0.30	0.55
UK Equity Growth	38.32	40.77	-0.44	1.66

KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS
161 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0LA
071 629 1663

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Global Inc & Gth	60.71	64.58	-1.45	...
Inv Trust	66.25	70.47	-0.92	...
Cautious Inc/Gth	56.08	59.65	-1.14	0.80
High Inc Acc	52.86	56.23	-0.80	3.60

L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD
Broadwalk Hse, 5 Appold St EC2A 2DA
071 588 2800

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Income	563.20	595.10	-8.90	5.60
Intl & General	417.90	426.40	-6.20	...

LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT
1 White Hart Yard SE1 071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Bridge Income	248.36	264.21†	-11.54	5.66
Inc & Growth Inc	54.32	57.79	-0.99	4.55
Smaller Cos	54.90	58.10†	+0.12	1.41

LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD
Laurentian Hse, Barnwood, Gloucester
GL4 7RZ Enq: 0452 371 500 Dlg: 0452 371 623

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth Trust	235.40	250.80	-4.30	2.17
High Income	104.20	110.90	-1.70	4.35
International	98.18	104.40	-2.10	0.58
Recovery Trust	60.62	64.49†	-1.32	1.58
European Trust	78.81	84.90	-1.84	1.03
Japanese Trust	45.65	48.56	-0.73	...
American Trust	81.31	86.39†	-2.80	...
Managed	65.72	69.92	-1.06	0.54
Cash	50.84	50.84	+0.03	4.28

LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD
21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT 071 374 0910

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Cap	345.60	351.40	-3.40	2.59
UK Inc/Gth	371.90	377.80	-2.80	3.26
UK Income	262.10	266.50	-1.70	4.49
UK Sm Cos	232.10	241.00	-0.50	1.95
Euro Gwth	119.00	120.10	-0.30	...
N Amer Gwth	72.83	73.59	-0.85	0.12
Japan Gwth	70.35	71.09	-0.94	...
Money Mkt	120.83	120.83	+0.22	2.80

LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 395

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Dist	446.90	475.40†	-10.70	2.64
Equity Income	94.38	100.40	-2.00	3.88
UK Tactical Allocn	53.20	56.50†	-1.82	2.80
European	109.20	116.20	-3.40	0.90
Far Eastern	243.90	259.50†	-6.10	...
Fixed Interest	48.53	51.63†	-0.54	7.07
Gilt	84.61	89.72†	-0.63	6.99
Global Growth	77.26	82.19	-2.90	0.11
Intl Bond	48.90	51.93	-0.67	5.16
Japanese	81.19	86.37	-1.45	...
North American	138.50	147.30	-4.60	0.71
Pacific Growth	118.90	126.50†	-2.80	...
UK Index	59.12	62.40†	-1.41	3.21
UK Recovery	87.27	92.84†	-2.36	1.83
UK Smaller Cos	118.80	126.40	-0.60	1.26
US Index	55.17	58.23	-1.56	1.55
European Index	69.62	73.48	-1.99	1.57
Japan Index	43.29	45.69	-0.66	...
Worldwide	82.78	88.06	-1.78	1.33

LINCOLN NATIONAL
1 Olympic Way, Wembley HA9 0NB
081 902 8876 Dealing: 0800 282 621

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth	47.77	51.09	-1.21	1.87
Income	57.51	61.51	-0.92	3.92
Far East	56.05	59.95	-1.34	...
North American	83.67	89.49	-2.56	...
Global	90.58	96.88	-1.90	0.15
European	83.12	88.50	-2.20	0.40
Japan	114.60	122.60†	-1.70	...
Intl Currency Bd	54.35	57.84†	-0.61	4.14
SE Asia	111.40	119.10	-5.20	...
UK Cap Growth	88.34	94.48†	-1.36	1.28

LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD
PO Box 63, Chatham, Kent ME4 4XD
Helpdesk: 0634 834 359 Dealing: 0634 834 313

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced	359.40	383.50	-7.50	2.91
-do- Acc	739.00	786.20	-16.90	2.91
Contl Euro Gth	60.51	63.70	-1.83	0.66
-do- Acc	64.46	67.86	-1.94	0.66
Extra Inc	248.50	264.40	-4.60	4.13
-do- Acc	630.70	671.00	-11.60	4.13
German Gth	121.10	127.50†	-3.20	0.16
-do- Acc	127.00	133.70	-3.40	0.16
Growth Port	517.00	550.00	-18.30	0.15
-do- Acc	525.60	559.20	-18.50	0.15
Income	464.20	493.90†	-17.20	3.88
-do- Acc	£12.49	£13.29	-23.00	3.98
Income Port	493.10	524.60†	-11.10	4.44
-do- Acc	518.30	551.40	-6.40	4.44
Japan Growth	110.30	112.30	-2.40	...
-do- Acc	110.60	117.70	-2.50	...
Master Trust	55.92	59.49	-1.01	1.47
-do- Acc	62.42	66.41	-1.13	1.47
N American Gen	168.00	178.80	-5.30	...
-do- Acc	194.00	206.40	-6.20	...
NAm Sm Co Rec	129.60	137.90	-4.60	...
-do- Acc	132.30	140.80	-4.70	...
Pacific Basin	263.00	279.80	-14.50	0.51
-do- Acc	279.00	296.90	-15.40	0.51
Small Cos Rec	346.30	364.60	-0.20	2.07
-do- Acc	458.60	482.60	-0.20	2.07
UK Growth	81.92	87.15	-0.61	2.53
-do- Acc	98.41	104.70	-0.80	2.53
Worldwide Gth	309.80	329.30	-8.10	0.23
-do- Acc	456.50	485.70	-12.00	0.23

LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS 0392 282 673

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	61.43	65.91	-1.63	0.10
General	83.17	89.23	-1.66	2.30
Income	63.39	68.01†	-0.72	5.40
International	63.15	67.76	-1.59	0.40
Japan	60.95	65.40	-1.33	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	67.54	72.49†	-1.11	1.60

M & G SECURITIES
M & G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford
CM1 1FB Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg 0245 390 390

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amer & General	375.30	396.90	-13.10	0.69
(Accum Units)	465.90	492.70	-16.30	0.69
Amer Recovery	421.70	445.90	-18.80	0.45
(Accum Units)	483.40	511.10	-21.60	0.45
Amer Smllr Cos	122.00	129.00	-3.40	...
(Accum Units)	124.70	131.80	-3.50	...
Australasian	162.20	171.50	-2.30	1.82
(Accum Units)	196.60	207.90	-2.80	1.82
Capital	799.20	845.20	-6.20	2.46
(Accum Units)	908.00	960.30	-7.00	2.46
Charifund	672.90	679.70	-11.60	5.62
(Accum Units)	£30.53	£30.83	-52.60	5.62
Commodity	405.20	428.50	-3.90	0.26
(Accum Units)	594.10	628.30	-5.70	0.26
Compound Grth	895.50	947.00†	-32.80	2.83
(Accum Units)	938.60	992.60	-21.40	2.83
Dividend	39.03	41.20	-0.90	4.40
(Accum Units)	160.00	169.30	-3.60	4.40
Equity Income	337.70	357.10	-6.60	4.93
(Accum Units)	428.80	454.40	-8.50	4.93
Euro & General	491.30	519.50	-8.70	1.03
(Accum Units)	620.30	656.90	-11.00	1.03
Euro Dividend	66.90	70.70	-1.00	3.75
(Accum Units)	79.80	84.20	-1.30	3.75
Extra Yield	397.00	419.80†	-8.60	4.83
(Accum Units)	£12.32	£13.02	-26.60	4.83
Far Eastern	366.00	387.00	-12.20	0.47
(Accum Units)	484.90	512.70	-16.10	0.47
Fund of Inv Tsts	609.00	644.00	+0.40	1.77
(Accum Units)	£11.29	£11.94	+0.80	1.77
General	58.30	61.70	-1.20	3.82
(Accum Units)	160.80	170.10	-3.40	3.82
Gilt Income	58.42	58.53	-0.35	8.21
(Accum Units)	157.46	157.76	-0.94	8.21
Gold	76.10	80.50	+1.30	0.50
(Accum Units)	89.80	95.00	+1.60	0.50
High Income	27.60	29.20	-0.50	4.69
(Accum Units)	108.60	115.20	-1.60	4.69
Intl Growth	76.60	81.00	-1.70	0.99
(Accum Units)	133.50	141.10	-2.90	0.99
International Inc	94.90	100.40†	-4.80	4.61
(Accum Units)	140.90	149.10	-2.90	4.61
Japan & Gen	50.50	53.40	-0.90	...
(Accum Units)	54.20	57.30	-1.00	...
Japan Smllr Cos	179.10	189.40†	-4.50	...
(Accum Units)	180.30	190.70	-4.60	...
Managed Income	26.70	28.00	-0.40	4.03
Midland	61.00	64.50†	-1.80	3.06
(Accum Units)	203.80	215.70	-2.60	3.06
Pension Ex	895.20	917.60	-17.80	4.39
Recovery	40.40	42.70	-0.50	2.63
(Accum Units)	65.70	69.40	-0.80	2.63
Second General	68.50	72.40	-0.10	3.46
(Accum Units)	174.80	184.80	-0.20	3.46
Smaller Cos	66.30	70.10	-0.10	3.11
(Accum Units)	130.20	137.70	-0.30	3.11
Treasury	25.02	25.07†	+0.03	5.12
Trustee	40.20	42.50†	-1.60	4.54
(Accum Units)	162.10	171.40	-2.50	4.54

MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD
MGM House, Heene Rd, Worthing
Dealing: 0277 261 810 Enq: 0903 204 631

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European Growth	76.97	81.88†	-1.98	0.67
Intl Bond	60.32	63.43	-0.93	6.29
Intl Equity Growth	68.34	72.69	-1.95	0.50
N Amer Growth	88.17	93.79†	-3.43	0.87
Special Sits Growth	20.65	21.96†	-0.07	1.76
UK Growth	353.10	375.60†	-8.90	2.29

MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD
46 Court St, Haddington, East Lothian
0620 825867

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Joint Investors	£12.72	£12.91	-12.80	2.30

MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
c/o Baillie Gifford 1 Rutland Ct EH3 8EY
031 222 4242

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Maldon General	135.40	139.30	...	4.40

MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD
St George's Way, Stevenage
Dealings: 0438 747 414

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth Units	185.80	198.70	-5.20	2.53
Gilt & Fxd Int	162.90	171.60	-1.00	6.95
Intl Growth	204.90	218.10	-5.20	0.19
North American	172.10	183.50	-5.00	0.38
Far East	276.00	295.20	-6.30	0.87
UK Smaller Cos	165.70	177.20	-0.60	1.86
European	78.02	83.24	-1.39	0.13
Japanese Growth	50.75	53.94	-0.99	...
High Income	177.60	189.90	-5.20	4.66

MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD
PO Box 400, Chester X CH99 9QG 0244 680 866

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
M & S Inv Ptfolio	144.10	153.20	-3.10	2.19
-do- Accum	164.10	174.50	-3.50	2.19
UK Sel Ptfolio	120.70	131.60	-2.60	2.45
-do- Accum	142.20	151.30	-3.00	2.45

MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD
57 Victoria Square, Bolton BL1 1LA
0204 364 842

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Tst	61.80	65.84†	+0.21	4.12

MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Saltire Crt, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh
031 479 4646

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Income	69.30	73.66†	-1.43	4.59
European	77.64	82.42	-1.87	0.43
Income & Growth	71.61	76.02	-0.38	3.63
Nth American	56.90	60.40	-1.06	0.67
Far East	174.40	185.10	-5.00	...
Japan	59.99	63.68	-1.12	...
Emrging Mkts	115.70	123.70	-3.40	...
Intl Growth	108.60	115.30†	-2.60	0.21
UK Growth	86.69	92.02	-1.21	0.80
UK Smlr Co	44.91	47.67	-0.16	0.59
Asian Opps Fd	40.79	43.63	-1.53	0.12

MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Income	391.29	416.27†	-8.67	4.20
Global Inc	62.86	66.87†	-1.36	3.09
Brit Leaders	321.59	342.12†	-7.39	2.62
Intl Leaders	187.88	199.87†	-5.85	0.82
PAM Mg Bal Gth	61.23	65.69†	-0.33	0.82

MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD
33 King William St EC4R 9AS
Dealing: 071 280 2060

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	187.90	199.90	-6.50	...
(Accum Units)	200.80	213.60	-7.00	...
British Blue Chip	70.30	74.98†	-2.17	3.11
(Accum Units)	92.86	98.64†	+2.66	3.11
Cash	101.00	101.00	+0.10	5.13
(Accum Units)	136.20	136.20	+0.10	5.13
Emerging Mkts	123.70	133.00	-3.50	0.19
European Growth	238.80	253.40	-4.90	0.29
(Accum Units)	257.40	273.30	-5.10	0.29
European Income	78.93	83.71	-1.53	3.43
(Accum Units)	105.10	111.50	-2.00	3.43
General	473.50	506.70†	-10.40	2.45
(Accum Units)	926.60	987.70†	-19.30	2.45
Global Bond	116.00	121.90†	-1.10	6.71
(Accum Units)	139.60	146.60†	-1.40	6.71
Gold & General	243.90	262.30	+6.60	0.34
(Accum Units)	250.40	269.30	+6.90	0.34
Govt Securities	87.94	90.67	-0.54	6.24
(Accum Units)	117.10	122.20	-1.00	6.24
Income	144.80	154.00	-3.20	4.50
(Accum Units)	222.80	236.80	-5.10	4.50
Inc Portfolio	92.98	98.54	-1.39	5.28
(Accum Units)	92.98	98.54	-1.39	5.28
Intl Opps	451.90	481.10	-11.50	0.34
(Accum Units)	602.70	641.60	-15.40	0.34
Japan	198.60	210.50	-4.40	...
(Accum Units)	203.80	216.00	-4.60	...
New Europe	174.50	186.10	-4.10	0.75
(Accum Units)	178.40	190.30	-4.20	0.75
Pacific	128.40	137.00	-4.90	0.84
(Accum Units)	157.40	168.60	-5.30	0.84
Recovery	290.90	310.30	-4.70	0.83
(Accum Units)	371.30	396.10	-6.40	0.83
UK Smaller Cos	53.42	56.91†	-0.25	0.91
(Accum Units)	62.65	66.83†	-0.30	0.91
Portfolio	77.26	82.15†	-1.66	2.81
(Accum Units)	90.72	96.43†	-1.95	2.81

METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ
0707 662 233

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Eurogrowth Plus	111.09	118.18	-2.29	0.91
Portfolio	65.32	69.49	-1.41	0.07
UK Income Inc	72.44	77.06†	-1.57	4.86

MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
Deacon Hse, 192 Eyre St, Sheffield S1 3RD
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced	57.60	61.40†	-0.91	2.94
(Accum Units)	60.61	64.62†	-0.95	2.94
British Tst	79.04	84.33	-2.27	1.98
(Accum Units)	90.87	97.18	-2.61	1.98
Extra High Inc	65.12	69.65†	-0.55	6.63
(Accum Units)	124.10	132.70†	-1.00	6.63
FT-SE 100 Acc	50.75	53.84	-1.46	2.56
FT-SE 100 Dist	50.74	53.84	-1.46	2.56
Gilt & Fxd Int	32.31	34.44	-0.41	7.09
(Accum Units)	149.20	155.30	-1.20	7.09
High Yield	215.30	230.50	-2.20	5.42
(Accum Units)	526.40	562.90	-5.60	5.42
Income	275.80	298.00	-6.00	3.63
(Accum Units)	600.10	641.80	-13.00	3.63
Money Market UT	49.69	49.69	+0.04	3.85
(Accum Units)	76.62	76.62	+0.06	3.85
Monthly Income	81.08	86.72†	-1.42	6.19
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	94.09	100.10	-2.60	1.96
European Growth	104.70	111.00	-1.40	0.02
Gilt & Fixed	80.96	85.91	-0.63	6.46
Income	80.46	85.60	-1.71	2.99
Japan Growth	56.69	60.20	-0.78	...
Managed	68.16	69.32	-1.55	2.54
Money Market	85.47	90.60	+0.03	4.43
North American	83.16	88.14	-1.67	0.51
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	85.46	90.92	-2.40	1.94
European Growth	98.58	104.30	-1.20	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Inc	77.15	81.87	-0.59	6.42
Income	79.04	84.09	-1.68	3.05
Japan Growth	56.55	59.94	-0.77	...
Managed	62.75	66.76	-1.03	2.49
Money Market	79.03	83.77	+0.03	4.39
North American	75.84	80.39	-1.49	0.61
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	85.51	90.97	-2.44	1.93
European Growth	96.34	102.00	-1.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	70.91	75.25	-0.56	6.56
Income	78.23	83.22	-1.69	3.07
Japan Growth	57.39	61.36	-0.80	...
Managed	65.61	69.80	-1.12	2.48
Money Market	73.85	78.28	+0.06	4.45
North American	83.92	88.96	-1.65	0.47

MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
International (US$)	12.69	13.49	-0.02	...

MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD
20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT
Dealers: 071 826 0526 Enquiries: 071 826 0123

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gwth	306.90	326.10	-7.80	...
European Gth Inc	428.00	455.10	+7.30	0.28
Intl Gwth	192.10	204.80	-3.80	...
UK Equity Inc	172.20	183.70†	-3.20	3.21
UK Ind Tckr Inc	150.10	161.60	-4.10	2.78
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	182.60	193.50	-5.30	1.48
Japan Tracker	79.16	83.85	-1.22	...
Asian Trader	211.60	228.80†	-8.60	0.27
Managed Inc	150.80	161.30	-2.10	1.48
Deposit Inc	99.80	99.90†	+0.05	4.09
Europa	175.60	189.00	-3.00	0.26
Genesis	150.90	165.40	...	2.20
High Income	21.28	22.58†	-0.35	10.00

MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT
7 West Nile St, Glasgow G1 2PX 0345 900 933

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Acumen	90.96	93.05†	-1.77	2.21
Acumen Inc	86.09	88.08†	-1.66	2.21
Acumen Reserve	80.18	80.98†	-0.26	8.23
-do- Inc	69.97	70.67†	-0.23	8.23
American Growth	160.70	165.40	-3.80	0.92
Cash Income	49.87	49.87	+0.04	4.59
Equity Income	90.89	93.34†	-2.05	4.57
European	68.83	70.46†	-2.24	...
Smaller Cos	73.73	79.15	+0.43	1.17
Olympiad	67.41	69.05	-1.43	...
Global Bond	41.61	42.16	-0.34	6.54
UK Growth	87.90	90.44	-2.12	1.69
Pacific Growth	114.90	119.00	-4.00	...
Japan Growth	99.82	101.40	-1.50	...

NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Avon Equity	115.57	122.95	-2.41	2.93

N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF
061 237 5322

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Growth	70.98	75.52	-1.09	2.12
UK Income	104.40	111.10	-1.80	3.94
Gilt & Fixed Int	65.99	69.84	-0.22	6.58
Higher Income	211.10	224.60	-3.10	4.91
Smaller Cos	79.58	84.66†	-0.56	1.95
International	93.13	99.09†	-1.74	1.91

NATIONAL PROV INV MGRS LTD
48 Gracechurch St EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
America Dist	98.06	104.88	-3.38	...
European Dist	105.30	112.60	-3.60	...
Far East Dist	190.00	203.20	-4.70	...
Global Care Dist	64.84	69.35	-0.74	1.75
Oseas Dist	£10.08	£10.78†	-28.30	...
UK Dist	327.50	350.30	-7.50	2.75
UK Extra Inc Dist	74.17	79.33	-0.59	4.33
Wwide Dist	103.70	110.90†	-2.90	...
Wwide Inc Dist	68.02	72.75†	-1.61	2.12

NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Dlg: 0277 690 280 Admin Enq: 0277 690 395

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Europe Inc	61.50	64.91	-1.39	0.49
Fund of Funds Inc	56.88	60.03	-1.06	0.87
North America Inc	46.60	49.18	-1.55	0.53
UK Equity Grth Inc	56.38	59.50	-1.01	2.10
UK General Inc	54.40	57.41†	-1.07	2.61
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	45.12	47.51†	-0.10	7.39
UK Income Inc	54.96	58.01	-1.16	3.10

NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD
71 Queen Victoria St, London EC4V 4DR
Dealer: 0500 440 000 Private client: 0500 550 000 Broker: 0500 660 000
Price enquiry freephone 0500 33 00 00

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Income	218.38	232.32†	-3.52	3.67
Global	336.44	357.92†	-7.27	0.71
General	181.88	193.49	-2.31	1.88
Bond	110.32	117.13	-2.55	6.36
Growth	118.12	125.67†	-2.17	2.55
Intrepid	116.67	121.74	...	1.85
Bridge Fund	84.15	89.53	+0.96	...
Distributor	87.20	92.77†	-1.63	3.35

NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS
PO Box 124, Surrey Street, Norwich
0603 682 234

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Master Trust	117.90	125.41†	-2.51	1.89
UK Equity	130.90	139.25	-3.49	3.15
UK Equity Income	125.97	134.01	-2.88	3.37
UK Smaller Cos	114.18	121.47	-0.25	1.70
UK Equity Growth	121.99	129.78†	-2.46	2.33
UK Index Trckg	133.53	142.05	-2.81	3.35
Intl Index Trckg	138.85	147.71†	-3.31	1.07
International	226.58	241.04†	-6.70	0.39
European	187.13	199.07	-4.76	0.30
Pan European	125.73	133.76	-3.36	1.46
Nth American	154.28	164.13	-4.06	0.53
N Amer Smlr Cos	170.60	181.49	-5.11	...
Japanese	100.32	106.72	-1.86	...
Pacific	242.66	258.15	-5.77	0.03
South East Asian	267.49	284.56†	-6.98	0.41
Intl Bond	122.60	130.34	-2.56	4.41
Gilt & Convertible	100.86	107.22	-0.74	5.98
Property	85.17	90.61	-0.23	5.05

PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Pearl Centre, Lynch Wd, Peterborough
PE2 6FY Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 0733 470 470

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity	230.40	245.10	-6.00	2.58
Growth	148.10	155.80	-3.60	2.68
Income	225.50	239.90†	-5.30	3.84
Intl Equity	241.10	256.40†	-5.90	0.87
UK Income	63.07	67.09	-1.50	3.46
UK Ind 25	75.70	80.53	-2.01	2.03
New Europe	75.53	80.34	-1.78	0.33

PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT
48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames 0491 417 000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Growth	595.27	636.66	-16.35	0.36
Income	320.85	343.16†	-8.45	3.51
Wwide Recovery	377.82	404.09	-9.65	0.14
Amer Growth Inc	207.02	221.42	-7.56	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	242.54	259.41	-6.33	0.01
Far Esn Gth Inc	294.53	315.01	-8.50	0.01
Euro Gwth Inc	135.07	144.46	-3.13	0.60
UK Growth Inc	83.18	88.97	-1.62	2.82
High Income	89.18	95.38	-1.95	4.34
Jap Gwth Inc	240.58	256.48	-7.41	0.01
PEP Growth	115.90	123.96	-3.17	0.69
Asian Str Mkts Inc	131.76	140.92	-3.55	0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc	125.37	134.09	-3.80	0.01
Global Bond	52.14	54.90†	-0.75	6.36
UK Smaller Cos Inc	76.02	81.31	-1.68	1.16

PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
39 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 6RQ 091 201 3427

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	94.27	104.54	-1.99	...
European	69.22	73.64	+0.30	...
Global	66.77	71.03	-0.33	...
Pacific	66.06	70.28	-0.98	...
UK Inc & Grth	62.82	66.83	+0.03	2.07

POINTON YORK UT MGRS
The Crescent, King St, Leicester LE1 6RX
0533 550 540

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
BRI Director Digs	97.68	104.04	-2.33	0.35

PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX
071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Portfolio	157.04	165.30	-3.46	0.64

PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
37 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath
0444 458 721

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Monthly Income	56.57	59.96	-0.04	2.46
Growth Income	60.00	63.60	-0.65	2.10

PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
16 South Park, Sevenoaks TN13 1AN
0732 740 700

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Principal Tst	125.34	133.35	-2.76	1.73

PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD
Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook EC4N 8LD
Enquiries: 071 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 282 443

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Income	86.62	92.15	-3.33	3.73
Conv & Gilt	110.70	117.80	-0.70	6.19
European Income	68.91	73.31†	-4.80	2.97
Extra Income	143.60	152.80†	-1.90	3.96
Far East	408.70	434.80	-6.90	0.25
Global Income	24.86	26.24	-0.63	4.70
High Income	110.60	117.30	-4.30	3.64
International	204.80	217.80†	-7.40	0.51
Pref & Fxd Int	40.05	42.61†	-0.77	7.64
Recovery	71.68	76.22	-1.58	2.48
Special Sits	101.80	108.30	-1.00	1.27
Technology	320.60	341.10	-12.20	...
UK Blue Chip	65.66	69.85	+1.74	2.90

PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
1 Seminar Hse Sq, Maidstone ME14 1XX
0622 674 751

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
General	31.50	34.57	-0.58	2.18
International	88.21	93.84	-1.62	0.38
Gilt	24.41	25.16	-0.02	6.51
Income & Gwth	68.86	73.26	-0.68	4.78
European	49.71	52.88	-1.06	0.44
American	50.90	54.15	-0.64	...
Emerging Mkts	89.62	95.34	-1.77	0.03
UK Smaller Cos	29.26	31.13†	+0.16	2.25
Gilt/Fixed Interest	24.68	26.25†	-0.08	6.94
Global PEP	38.00	40.43†	-0.57	1.21

PROVIDENCE CAPITOL FD MGRS LTD
2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA
0256 768 888

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European Inc	259.00	279.20	-6.10	0.61
Japan Inc	113.00	120.60†	-1.60	...
Nth American Inc	103.70	111.70	-2.80	0.12
Worldwide Inc	161.80	174.10†	-3.30	0.75
Hong Kong Inc	138.10	148.30	-7.60	0.98
Swiss Equities Inc	63.49	68.01	-2.27	0.37
Wwide Bond Inc	58.28	61.61†	-0.42	5.52
Emging Asia Inc	231.90	253.00	-5.40	0.42
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.40	50.40	+0.01	4.93
Thailand Inc	173.10	186.20	+1.30	0.20
Gold Trust Inc	87.34	94.11	+0.59	0.21
New Zealand Inc	81.30	87.59†	-0.55	1.57
Int Mngd PEP Inc	62.48	67.38	-1.51	0.66
Latin Am Cap Inc	91.79	99.00	-3.50	0.01
UK All Sh Mkt Inc	55.79	59.88	-1.20	2.60
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	80.21	85.79	-0.36	1.50
Global Portfolio	72.61	77.60	-0.90	...
Global Opps	74.66	79.85	+0.21	0.42
Marsh Global Grth	66.97	71.62	-1.00	1.92
AAM Global Equity	53.23	58.42	-1.16	0.76
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	83.09	89.56	-2.82	0.99
CAM Intl Recy Inc	45.27	47.53	...	1.04
Temple Equity Inc	43.10	47.11	-1.04	3.07
Hartley Growth	71.86	76.17	-0.60	0.26
Intl Growth Inc	85.04	90.95†	-0.60	0.73
IPS Portfolio Inc	86.62	92.64	-0.49	0.22
St Jms Mtn Inc Inc	45.24	46.92	-0.69	2.74
Premier Perfmc Inc	68.02	72.75	-0.13	0.70
Roxburgh Strat Gth	74.02	79.17	-0.44	0.34
Tech Analysis	97.76	104.00†	-0.40	0.29
Rosebery Growth	52.92	58.14	+0.86	...
International Strat	78.81	84.29	-0.43	...
UFC Intl-Act Grth	54.15	58.50	-0.35	...
Coverdale Topcor	51.71	55.91	-0.60	...
Prem Equity Inc	108.30	114.40	...	...
Lowes Intl Growth	44.90	47.26	-0.46	1.25

PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
25-31 Moorgate, London EC2R 6BA
071 588 3963

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Gth	163.20	173.60	-4.60	1.67
European Gth	95.98	101.20	-1.80	0.17
Income & Gth	127.60	135.70	-3.70	3.05
Japan Gth	126.20	133.70	-2.70	...
Nth Amer Gth	108.90	115.90	-3.50	0.18
Overseas Gth	88.00	93.49	-2.18	...

PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD
51-59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL
081 478 3377 Client Enq: 071 911 4490 Intermed dlg: 071 911 4314 Pricebank: 0426 925 091

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Tst	35.39	37.85	-0.59	1.60
Cash Haven Inc	101.42	101.92	+0.06	4.52
Cash Haven Acc	110.19	110.73	+0.07	4.52
Dist Trust Inc	91.77	98.14†	-1.09	4.52
Dist Trust Acc	93.70	100.30†	-1.13	4.52
Global Growth	85.11	91.02	-2.02	1.23
Equity Inc	78.27	83.71	-1.66	3.67
Equity	688.38	736.23†	-14.98	2.33
European	200.54	214.48	-6.42	0.73
High Income	84.88	90.78†	-1.48	5.18
Intl Grth	173.73	185.80	-4.26	1.28
Intl Sm Co	75.09	80.31†	-1.44	0.50
Japanese	229.37	245.31	-3.31	...
Nth Amer	151.57	161.88	-5.93	1.81
Pacific Mkts	103.63	110.83	-2.81	0.12
Premier Inc	45.94	47.83†	-0.32	5.12
Sm Cos	83.58	89.39	-2.22	1.74
Spec Sits	103.27	110.44	-3.16	2.24
UK Growth	114.90	122.88	-2.42	2.32

RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD
Reliance House, Tunbridge Wells, Kent
0892 510 033

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
British Life	287.30	304.70†	-8.20	3.45

ROCK ASSET MGMT (UNIT TRUST) LTD
Bolsham House, Regent Centre, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3NG 091 285 2555

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	93.77	99.49	+0.77	2.15

ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT
St Swithin's Lane, London EC4
Dealers: 071 280 5000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FA America (Inc)	477.51	508.46	-17.38	0.40
FA America (Acc)	558.32	594.44	-20.56	0.40
FA UK Equity Inc	152.00	162.10	-4.52	3.46
FA Japan	273.05	280.92	-6.87	...
FA Major UK Cos	90.66	96.64	-2.93	2.28
FA Smllr UK Cos	280.36	304.88†	-1.42	1.17
FA European	311.48	330.59	-4.85	0.40
FA Amer Smllr Cos	41.53	44.66	-1.20	...
FA Asia	51.01	54.68	-0.69	...
FA Jap Smllr Cos	56.17	60.18	-1.46	...
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	90.69	95.46	-2.90	...
UK Smllr Cos	80.33	84.55	-0.40	...
UK Income	89.39	94.09	-2.62	...
America	95.85	100.88	-3.49	...
Japanese	60.05	63.20	-1.50	...
European	99.64	104.88	-1.53	...
Gilt	83.44	87.82	-0.54	...
Deposit	82.08	86.40	+0.09	...
Managed	94.67	99.64	-2.28	...
RAM FSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	88.37	93.01	-2.83	...
UK Smaller Cos	78.54	82.67	-0.39	...
UK Income	87.26	91.84†	-2.56	...
America	93.36	98.27	-3.41	...
Japanese	58.51	61.58	-1.46	...
European	97.11	102.21	-1.51	...
Gilt	82.51	86.84	-0.59	...
Deposit	78.17	82.28	+0.06	...
Managed	89.43	94.13	-2.09	...

ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD
PO Box 34, Peterborough PE2 0UE
Prices: 0733 282 828 Gen Enq: 0733 390 000
Dealing: 0733 393 000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
United States	71.30	76.12†	-1.64	0.11
Pacific Basin	82.82	89.09†	-2.52	...
High Inc Dist	122.80	131.30†	-3.00	5.07
Ryl Life Int Ctncy	56.57	60.16	-0.82	4.36
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	65.96	70.46	-1.63	0.02
Ryl Life Intl Spec	63.25	67.28	-1.34	...
UK Emerging Cos	123.10	133.00	+0.10	1.16
UK Index Trckg	158.40	168.80	-1.40	3.26
European	124.10	133.70†	-1.80	0.29
Managed	141.50	152.10	-2.80	0.84

ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
Royal Ldn Hse, Colchester CO1 1RA
0206 764 400

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Growth	136.80	144.80	-4.30	0.30
European Growth	107.50	113.60	-2.50	0.79
Far East Growth	138.50	147.40	-2.60	0.11
Japan Growth	141.50	150.50†	-1.40	...
Special Sits	187.50	199.40†	-1.30	1.48
UK Growth	73.64	78.34	-1.43	2.41
Trtion General	232.30	247.20†	-5.10	0.62

ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NS
041 307 6500

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Far East Inc	178.10	188.50	-6.00	0.04
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	339.20	358.90	-6.20	0.64
Growth Inc	129.10	136.60	-3.20	0.58
International Inc	334.70	354.20	-6.50	0.36
Nth Am & Intl Inc	305.40	323.20	-11.00	0.01
UK Gen Prog Inc	214.50	227.00	-3.10	1.37
UK High Inc Inc	129.20	136.70	-2.00	3.84

SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD
City Place Hse, 55 Basinghall St EC2V 5DU
071 330 0572

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gwth	60.68	64.55	-2.26	...
Amer Smllr Cos	75.29	80.09	-2.26	...
Asian Gwth	115.66	124.04	-1.66	0.75
European Gwth	66.35	70.58	-1.43	1.00
Global Bd	57.17	60.45	-0.44	5.00
Global Eq	63.82	67.89	-2.08	0.50
Japanese Eq	58.01	61.71	-1.44	...
Japan Sm Cos	68.25	72.60	-1.53	...
UK Gen	51.91	55.22	-0.88	2.80
UK Gwth	55.92	59.48	-0.89	1.75

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP
16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB
0708 766 966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amer Inc & Gwth	63.09	67.12†	-2.94	4.54
Amer Smllr Cos	104.50	111.20	-2.60	...
Asian Smaller Cos	49.25	52.39	-1.90	...
Capital Portfolio	123.70	131.60	-3.40	2.19
Capital	158.40	168.50	-3.40	0.64
Cash	124.70	124.70†	+0.10	4.84
China Dragon	61.84	65.79	-2.88	0.38
Commodity	139.60	148.50	-1.50	0.29
Eastern Discovery	108.80	115.70	-1.90	...
Energy Inds	124.60	132.50	-4.30	0.38
European Gwth	182.50	194.20	-3.10	...
Euro Inc & Gwth	74.15	78.88	-1.50	2.06
Euro Smllr Cos	51.78	55.08	+0.09	...
Financial Secs	193.00	205.30	-3.60	0.59
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	47.12	49.73†	-0.12	9.00
Gold & Exploration	90.10	95.85	-0.75	0.23
High Return	219.40	233.40	-3.50	4.36
High Yield	218.70	232.70†	-2.90	4.03
Income	114.70	122.00	-1.80	4.50
Intl Bond	154.30	163.00†	-1.80	6.04
ITU	204.00	217.00†	-3.20	1.06
Japan Growth	185.80	197.70†	-2.00	...
Japan Smaller	213.70	227.30	-6.30	...
Korea	77.56	82.51†	-4.73	...
Masterfund	56.10	59.68	-0.39	0.29
Scotbits	290.80	309.40	-5.10	0.99
Scotshares	276.70	294.40	-6.70	2.46
Scotyields	231.30	246.10	-5.00	3.83
Select Intl	141.10	150.10†	-3.80	0.47
Smaller Cos Inc	242.80	258.30†	-1.00	3.32
SE Asia	606.40	645.10	-18.70	...
Special Situation	117.70	125.20	-21.00	1.55
UK Equity	234.90	249.90	-3.90	3.00
UK Growth	60.75	64.63	-1.44	1.44
UK Smllr Cos Gwth	46.23	49.18	-0.08	0.71
US Growth	137.00	145.70	-3.90	0.43
Univ Growth	139.30	148.10	-3.70	0.77

SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria St EC4V 4EJ Clients: 0800 526 535 Brokers: 0800 526 540 General Enquiries: 071 382 3860

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Retail Funds				
American	232.30	247.16	-6.61	0.87
European Gwth	70.90	75.48	-2.47	1.02
Euro Smllr Cos	74.73	79.71	-0.96	0.22
Far Eastern Gth	102.66	109.50	-2.45	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	48.88	51.55†	-0.39	7.28
Global Bond	46.93	48.50	-1.06	6.54
Global Emer Mkts	59.01	62.94†	-1.57	...
Income	334.38	357.20†	-8.14	3.98
Japan Smllr Cos	327.11	362.25	-10.44	...
Japan Enterprise	73.66	78.57†	-1.68	...
Pacific Gwth	137.47	146.63	-5.10	...
Seoul	55.51	59.93	-2.23	...
Smaller Cos	203.97	217.56	-1.01	1.04
Tokyo	128.08	136.61†	-1.81	...
UK Enterprise	239.76	255.74	-3.58	2.49
UK Equity	227.84	243.13	-5.90	2.73
US Smllr Cos	147.85	157.70	-2.24	...
World Fd	77.56	82.73	-1.99	1.83
Institutional Funds				
European	224.14	233.47	-6.88	1.36
Euro Smllr Cos	28.94	30.14	-0.31	1.61
Global Equity Inc	76.16	79.33†	-2.27	0.85
Japan Smllr Cos	41.46	43.18	-0.69	...
Mngd Balanced	180.70	188.22	-3.53	2.61
Overseas Equity	186.84	194.62	-4.63	0.74
Oseas Smllr Cos	124.89	130.09	-2.16	0.43
Pacific	256.95	267.65†	-9.29	0.97
Recovery	£17.99	£18.74	-30.51	2.90
UK Index	148.39	154.57	-3.77	3.36
UK Small Cos	111.02	115.64	-0.48	2.69
US Smllr Cos	42.26	44.02†	-0.78	0.49

SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ
041 204 2280

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Income	47.62	50.72	-0.89	2.46
Equity Trust	58.65	62.46	-1.35	2.28
Equity Strategy	66.67	71.00	-0.92	1.70
European Opps	63.50	68.93	-2.30	0.74
UK Smaller Cos	60.65	64.59	-0.05	1.41
Maximum Inc	94.84	101.20	-0.07	5.76
Japanese	82.56	87.93	-1.54	0.0
Asia Pacific	129.00	137.38	-4.55	0.61
American	93.93	100.40	-2.83	0.62

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD
28 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh 0800 454 422

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cash	30.95	30.95	+0.03	5.12
UK General Inc	49.16	52.44	-0.88	2.84
Intl Income	276.50	294.40†	-3.90	1.01
European	77.08	81.74	-0.40	1.47
Japan	71.39	75.56	-1.05	0.06
American	61.79	65.56	-1.70	1.92
Far East	93.01	99.21	-1.61	0.76
Ethical Inc	29.03	31.04	-0.11	2.15
UK Blue Chip Inc	31.53	33.72†	-0.76	2.96
High Inc Inc	34.44	36.95	-0.30	3.44
UK Global Inc	40.10	42.79	-0.62	1.52
Wwide Tact	74.01	79.04†	-1.53	1.35
Europe 2000 Tact	51.85	55.07	-0.51	1.51
Technology	101.55	108.25†	-2.06	1.51

SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS
19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh 031 225 2211

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity	364.40	389.40	-8.80	2.96
American	244.90	260.00	-7.80	0.49
Pacific	397.60	425.20	-12.80	0.48
European	518.80	554.90	-13.30	1.26
Worldwide	87.09	93.14	-2.28	0.73

SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD
109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN
041 248 6100

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity Inc	262.20	279.00	-6.50	2.25
UK Sm Co Eq Inc	189.10	201.20	+0.20	1.62
Select Oppnty Inc	63.65	66.08†	-1.46	2.16
Income Plus Inc	68.24	72.60†	-1.99	4.01
European Inc	333.30	354.60†	-8.90	1.13
Far Eastern Inc	177.50	188.90†	-4.00	0.77
Japanese Inc	64.70	68.84†	-1.56	...
Nth American Inc	227.50	242.10†	-7.20	0.63
Intl Growth Inc	199.50	212.30	-5.60	0.76
Wwide Venture Inc	77.96	82.94†	-1.95	0.71

SCOTTISH WIDOWS FUND MGMT
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU
031 668 3724

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Inc	348.30	371.50	-7.40	3.00
UK High Inc	175.00	186.60	-3.00	3.90
Europe Inc	350.90	374.30	-3.10	0.47
Nth Amer Inc	205.30	219.00	-8.20	0.26
Global Inc	199.50	213.00	-7.00	4.33
UK Spec Sits Inc	93.90	100.10	-1.60	3.07
South East Asia	238.60	254.40	-5.90	0.44
Cash Trust Inc	101.30	101.30	+0.10	4.83
UK Smlr Cos Inc	100.50	107.20	-0.20	2.19
Intl Bond Inc	88.08	91.39	-1.27	6.54

SEMPER EADEM FUND MGMT LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Sector Recovery	140.30	147.40	-1.40	4.53

SHARP (ALBERT E) & CO
5 Rayleigh Rd Hutton, Brentwood Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	119.10	125.40	-2.90	1.01
Nth American	94.55	99.53	-2.87	0.48
Intl Bond & Conv	120.90	127.30	-0.90	5.10
Pooled Pension (£)	182.50	195.90	-0.50	2.23
Smaller Cos	69.68	73.35	-0.38	1.42
UK General	122.80	129.30	-3.60	2.16

SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD
21 New St, London EC2M 4HR 071 626 6226

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amer Gth Fund‡	98.76	...	-2.55	0.0
Amex‡	113.30	...	-4.00	0.0
European‡	119.10	...	-4.20	0.0
Global Bond‡	91.37	...	-0.65	7.82
Samurai‡	94.07	...	-2.15	0.0
UK Growth‡	100.80	...	-0.60	2.71
Tel Fund	105.60	...	-2.90	0.0

SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS
1 Riding House St, London W1A 3AS
071 637 5377

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	278.00	294.00	-6.30	0.06
Canadian	71.08	75.22	-3.11	0.52
Capital	123.10	131.90	-2.70	1.25
Cash	100.34	100.34	+0.07	5.15
European	130.50	138.10	-1.30	0.76
Far Eastern	173.70	183.80	-3.50	...
Growth	131.80	139.40	-3.40	1.02
Income	125.90	133.20†	-1.30	4.78
Magnum	133.00	140.40	-2.90	1.24
Smlr Secs	365.48	386.60†	-2.00	0.84
Thoroughbred	152.30	163.30†	-3.20	1.13

SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
12 Christchurch Rd, Bournemouth
0202 298 422

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cash	50.32	50.82	-0.15	4.50
Conv'ld Finance	54.37	57.99	+0.02	7.90
Ethical	53.31	56.71†	-0.36	3.00
European Growth	70.55	75.23	-1.73	2.60
Income	53.53	57.09	-0.84	6.00
Intl Growth	95.63	102.00	-2.00	2.70
Managed	79.28	84.56	-1.70	3.60
UK Growth	90.00	95.95	-1.23	3.80

STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS
PO Box 141 1 Tanfield Edinburgh EH3 5RG
0800 393 777

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	37.36	40.03	-0.45	1.64
Global Advtg Acc	40.26	42.88	-0.47	1.64
Income Advtg Inc	30.41	32.34†	-0.08	3.86
Income Advtg Acc	33.24	35.36	-0.08	3.86
UK Equity Gth Acc	63.23	67.14	-1.20	1.41
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
Managed Acc	49.07	52.14	-1.05	1.49
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	35.31	37.52†	-0.68	3.85
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	43.74	46.48	-0.84	3.85
UK Equity Gen Acc	59.71	63.45	-1.26	2.33
UK Equity Gen Inc	44.17	46.94†	-0.92	2.33
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	29.36	31.05†	-0.19	6.76
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	306.70	332.80	-6.00	1.59
Nth American Acc	42.32	44.97	-1.15	0.83
Far East Acc	70.90	75.34	-1.09	0.08
European Acc	50.64	53.81	-0.71	0.76

STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD
28 King Street, London SW1 6QW 071 344 7000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Global A (NZ$)	3.845	4.080	+0.00	0.52
US Eqts (US$)	2.428	2.574	+0.01	0.67
Far East Eqts (yen)	245.00	260.20	-4.20	...
Japan Eqties (yen)	268.00	284.60	-2.50	...
FT Europe	120.70	128.20†	-0.90	1.55
FT N Amer (US$)	1.774	1.880	+0.01	0.95
FT Japan (yen)	236.80	251.60	-4.10	...
FT Asia ExJap (US$)	2.615	2.776†	-0.02	0.76

STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD
45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031 226 3271

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	341.70	364.40	-9.40	...
British	971.10	£10.27	-12.70	4.22
Emging Mkts	167.30	178.20	-6.20	...
European	518.90	556.30†	-4.00	0.94
Japan	159.60	169.30	-4.40	...
New Pacific	397.00	423.70	-8.50	0.70
Investment Tst	226.90	238.40†	-4.39	1.34
Mngd Equity	168.10	177.80	-2.80	1.45
Mngd Cash	95.65	95.65†	+0.08	4.75

SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 389

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity	783.50	838.00	-16.90	3.35
North America	117.30	125.50	-3.40	0.84
Far East	154.70	165.50	-4.30	...
Wwide Bond	53.14	56.41†	-1.10	5.18
European	99.73	106.70†	-2.50	0.39
Equity Income	87.64	93.73	-1.78	5.11
Portfolio	82.66	88.41	-2.09	1.22
UK Leading Cos	57.22	60.87	-1.55	3.74
Broker Trusts				
Intnl Equity	68.30	73.05	-0.61	...

SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants 0800 525 725

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Growth	32.86	35.15	-1.16	0.56
Managed Assets	123.74	132.35	-2.91	2.70
UK Income	38.98	41.69	-1.01	3.26
UK Growth	37.35	39.95†	-1.00	2.43
Worldwide Growth	34.95	37.38	-0.99	0.66

SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD
NL Cannon St, London EC4N 5AD
Admin & Enq: 071 606 4044 Dlg: 071 606 6010

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Discretionary	49.89	53.07	-0.25	...
Cap Protector Inc	41.48	44.36†	-0.03	2.59
UK Income Inc Inc	49.36	52.68	-0.86	3.28
Mngd Extra Inc Inc	31.73	33.94†	-0.21	3.74
Mngd High Yld Inc	77.06	82.42	-1.12	4.29
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	72.17	77.19	-1.46	3.20
UK Smaller Cos	33.97	36.33†	+0.20	1.71
Pacific Grth Port	48.01	51.35	-1.26	0.20

TSB UNIT TRUSTS
Charlton Pl, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE
0264 346 794

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	196.41	208.95	-6.96	...
Brit Growth	92.27	98.16†	-2.37	1.99
European	106.93	113.76	-1.67	0.01
Extra Income	189.19	201.26	+0.12	4.20
Smaller Cos	69.02	73.43†	-0.44	1.50
General	270.07	287.31	-5.84	2.36
Premier Income	48.64	50.64†	-0.86	6.61
Income	330.33	351.41	-5.23	3.82
Pacific	446.45	474.95	-12.56	...
International	535.75	569.94†	-15.17	0.05
Nat Resources	173.16	184.21†	-7.71	...
Slctd Opps	101.53	108.01†	-0.82	1.31
Environmental Inv	60.53	64.39	-2.24	2.29
Selector	61.43	65.35†	-1.50	2.13
High Income	63.02	67.04	-1.21	4.65
Intl Income	55.55	59.09†	-0.77	5.25
Selector Income	58.90	62.66†	-1.96	5.02

TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon
081 667 1818

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
British	312.00	328.40	-5.60	2.73

TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2EH 031 469 4000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Glob Growth Inc	199.86	213.76	-3.29	1.42
Glob Balncd Inc	168.57	180.29†	-2.95	2.87
Value Tst Inc	117.19	125.34	-3.04	1.42

THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD
33 Queen Street, London EC4R 1AX
071 246 3000 Dealing: 071 246 3901

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Dresdner Eur Bd	39.02	40.98†	-0.26	6.30
European Growth	261.45	277.50	-9.34	0.90
Exempt	504.42	527.77†	-9.95	3.60
Global Em Mkts	111.19	118.60†	-3.48	0.60
Japan Tst	86.13	91.75	-1.87	...
Little Dragons	93.65	99.88	-3.09	...
Nth Amer Gwth	211.11	224.69	-7.92	0.70
Oriental Income	46.80	49.91†	-1.04	5.00
Preference	112.37	120.18†	-0.26	9.10
Tiger	291.61	311.08	-8.82	...
UK Blue-Chip	59.88	63.86	-1.70	3.10
UK Growth	486.20	520.00†	-6.79	2.30
UK High Yield	99.82	106.75†	-2.53	3.60
UK Mid-Cap	247.52	264.72†	-2.91	2.00
UK Emlr Cos	99.83	106.76	-0.26	1.10
UK Smlr Cos Div	96.47	103.16	+1.23	4.70

UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex 0277 690 356

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity Income	93.97	99.97	-2.01	3.03
UK Equity Growth	84.04	89.40†	-1.68	2.36
European	66.72	70.98†	-1.73	1.11
Nth American	65.20	69.36	-1.95	1.28
Far Eastern	72.26	76.87	-1.27	0.56
Money	66.57	66.57	+0.04	3.88
Fixed Interest	69.04	73.45	-0.43	6.84
Index Linked Gilt	64.00	68.08	-0.07	1.40

WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD
13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031 225 1551

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Australasian Gold	30.20	32.12	-0.78	...
Pacific Basin	45.0	47.87	-0.85	...
Cm Balncd Gwth	23.46	24.95	-1.84	...
Global Bond (US$)	0.87	0.91	+0.00	5.96
Penny Share	32.03	34.07	-0.39	0.50

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	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Challenger	91.44	93.58	-0.91	...
Short Dtd Gilt	100.30	100.70	-0.05	...
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.73	0.74	+0.00	0.84
Gilt Income	48.61	50.58†	-0.38	7.50
Gilt Growth	67.70	70.47	-0.77	...
City Reserve	53.07	53.08	+0.03	4.70

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	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Stockmarket Fd	75.87	80.70	-1.43	2.44

Source: Finstat
* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

هكذا من الأصل

Losses across the board

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
523	387½	Abbey Ntl	406	-6	...	4.8	13.6
314	233	Allied Irish	244	-4	...	5.2	9.4
278½	172	Aus New Z	172	-3	...	5.7	27.3
3300	2637½	Bankamerica	2700	-75	...	...	...
319	246	Bk of Ireland	275	-6	...	4.7	8.0
247	172½	Bank Scotland	200	-6½	...	3.3	11.3
640	487	Barclays	572	+2	...	3.6	12.2
37	13½	Carlisle	24½	...	...	1.3	...
630½	449	Cater Allen	487	...	...	7.3	9.9
174½	126½	Cattles	129½	...	...	5.1	14.5
2628½	1543½	Chase Manh	2212½	-9½	...	...	...
2912½	2262½	Citicorp	2787½	-12½	...	...	...
285½	203	Close Bros	236	-1	...	4.0	...
£190½	£121¼	Commerzbk	£128½	-2¼	...	6.4	...
£344½	£270½	Deutsche Bk	£300	-3¼	...	2.3	...
90	60	First Nat Fin	65	-1½	...	2.9	...
1549½	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1301½	-18	...	0.4	...
515	395	Gerrard Nat	448	-5	22.0	6.1	12.9
1119	660	HSBC	707	-14	...	4.3	10.2
1133	680	HSBC HK	709	-14	...	4.3	10.3
473	220	Hambros	220	-5	...	8.5	9.0
443	400	Joseph (L)	418	...	...	5.2	12.2
170	106	King Shaxson	115	...	...	9.8	11.4
693	424	Kleinwort Ben	466	+1	...	5.2	8.2
660	519	Lloyds	585	-9	...	5.3	10.7
119	95	Lon Scot Bk	116	...	...	3.8	17.6
620½	472	Nat Aust Bk	476	-1	...	5.6	10.6
622	421	Nat West	489	-9	...	5.0	9.1

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INDEX-LINKED

Moment of truth has arrived for ante-post Derby favourite

Celtic Swing can justify reputation

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

THE first of many shock results to characterise the 1994 Flat season came at York in August when Chilly Billy, still winnerless after three outings, made off with the Gimcrack Stakes at the surprisingly ungenerous odds of 12-1.

To witness a victory in the highest class by one of the less glamorous stables is always refreshing. It reiterates the glorious uncertainty of the sport. Nevertheless, amid celebrations on the Knavesmire, what plainly bewildered racegoers was the defeat sustained by Chilly Billy, four weeks previously, in a nondescript contest at Ayr.

Knowing glances were exchanged among the cognoscenti. Chilly Billy is trained by Lynda Ramsden, whose stable is renowned for inflicting serious wounds on the bookmakers. Now, however, we have the benefit of hindsight, for the horse to put Chilly Billy to the sword was Celtic Swing, subsequently a record-breaking winner at Ascot and ante-post favourite, no less, for the Epsom Derby.

Today, it is Celtic Swing's turn to face the sharp end as seven opponents attempt to slay his reputation in the Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster. There is considerable talent among them, but Celtic Swing, a twice-raced, unbeaten colt is expected to emerge triumphant.

Racing may be the glorious uncertainty, but its mysteries hold nothing to the veritable maze of the breeding world. Celtic Swing's sire, Damister, has never before produced an animal of real merit. He has acquired the status of a journeyman stallion, yet there is no more promising horse in training than Celtic Swing, who is trained for Lavinia, the Duchess of Norfolk, by her daughter, Lady Herries.

The quality is certainly there on the dam's side. As for Celtic Swing, he descends from the family of Moon Madness, Sheriff's Star and the Gold Cup winner, Ragstone. He is, in short, a fascinating racehorse, and one sure to feel confortable over the stiff Doncaster mile.

That is just as well. The opposition ranged against him are ground-devouring types for whom the test of stamina is equally appropriate. Juyush, already exposed as a cut below Eltish, will have to be left well adrift if Celtic Swing is to maintain his lofty perch in the classic betting lists.

Don Corleone, whose victory in the bonus-inspired Tattersalls Houghton Sales Stakes landed connections a bumper pay-day, poses more of a threat, particularly if David Harrison makes full use of his raking stride.

But the biggest chance of an upset rests with Annus Mirabilis. The naming of this colt was doubtless inspired by the Queen's amended reference to the phrase in her Christmas address. In the light of recent disclosures by the Prince of Wales, Her Majesty might have spoken a shade too soon. Lanfranco Dettori, on the other hand, cannot commit himself too quickly on Annus Mirabilis, who is a determined galloper. He should follow Celtic Swing home.

If the career of Celtic Swing is in its infancy, that of Bob's Return is at the end of the road. Winner of the St Leger last year, Bob's Return emerged from his last outing, the Irish St Leger, with a slight injury to his off-fore that has necessitated retirement.

After a promising reappearance at Royal Ascot, when he narrowly succumbed to Bobzao in the Hardwicke Stakes, it has been something of an inglorious season for the Mark Tompkins-trained four-year-old. Nevertheless, Bob's Return accrued earnings in excess of £370,000 in 14 races over three seasons. His St Leger defeat of Armiger and Edbaysaan represented a significant achievement on the part of his connections.

Meanwhile, Moonax, winner of the St Leger last month, strives to repeat that victory in the French equivalent, the Prix Royal-Oak, at Longchamp tomorrow. Pat Eddery, who precipitated another shock, this time at 40-1, when guiding Moonax to the final classic of the season, renews his association with the Barry Hills-trained colt. Moonax faces six opponents, among them Kithanga, trained by Luca Cumani and ridden by Dettori.

MARTIN LYNCH

Don Corleone, the winner of the Tattersalls Houghton Sales Stakes, seeks another big-race success in the Racing Post Trophy

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: MAKE TIME
(3.30 Newbury)
Next best: Penny A Day
(4.45 Doncaster)

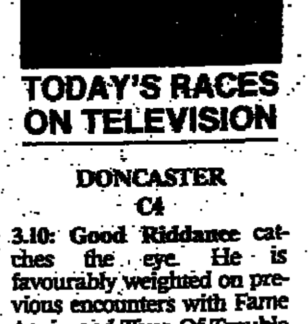
Good Riddance appeals over longer distance

NEWBURY
BBC1

1.20: Finger Of Light will attract support on her recent fourth when badly drawn at Newmarket. Although this represents her best opportunity, she has never attempted this trip and is not bred to appreciate it. One who should, however, is **Threatening**, whose best effort came on soft ground over a mile at Kempton. On that occasion, she had the consistent Embankment four lengths behind and reopposes on marginally better terms. Magic Junction defied a three-month absence with an eye-catching second at Pontefract last month but is 4lb out of the handicap.

1.50: Hiwaya is the form choice on her Newmarket defeat of Germane and Poppy Carew. Germane has since scored in better company and a line through Poppy Carew gives Hiwaya the edge over Opera Lover. Al Rawda, off the course for more than three months, failed to settle when beaten at Beverley. Conversely, **Dashing Water** has proved amenable to restraint and her ability to handle easy ground is proven. A strong pace will suit this half-sister to Lochsong, who ran away with a Warwick maiden last time.

2.20: Persian Brave should ensure a decent gallop and will be hard to pass. However, even with conditions in his favour, he has some improving three-year-olds to contend with here. **Sadler's Image**, who narrowly mastered Strategic Choice at Newmarket, meets that rival on 3lb better terms and should prevail again. Shambo cannot be discounted although he is better over further. Key To My Heart carries a penalty but appeals more than Lille Hammer.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

DONCASTER
C4

3.10: **Good Riddance** catches the eye. He is favourably weighted on previous encounters with Fame Again and Time Of Trouble and should relish the step up to seven furlongs. Kemo Sabo looks a danger in spite of his disappointing York effort. Others to consider are the consistent Poignard and Saint Amigo. The latter now reverts to his best trip.

3.40: see left.

4.15: Painted Madam looks sure to run another honest race but **Belfry** is worth chancing on the evidence of his recent victory. After two runs at a mile, the Alzao colt showed plenty of speed over seven furlongs at Leicester and this shorter trip can see him triumph. Leap For Joy won well at Goodwood last time but Overbrook's place credentials look more solid.

4.45: The likely strong pace should suit Proton but preference is for **Penny A Day**. She handles easy ground and has not been unduly punished for her last two victories. Although Uncle Oswald shaped encouragingly on his belated seasonal debut, he looks harshly handicapped. Museum makes more appeal, while Bit On The Side will encounter his favoured soft ground.

JULIAN MUSCAT

DONCASTER

THUNDERER

1.40 Top Shiel
2.10 Mur Taasha
2.40 Royale Figurine
3.10 Blaze Of Song
3.40 Celtic Swing
4.15 **PAINTED MADAM** (nap)
4.15 Gone For A Burton

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.15 **PAINTED MADAM.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.15 Bahith. 4.45 Bit On The Side.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

1.40 AUTUMN CLAIMING STAKES (£4,338: 1m 2f 60yd) (22 runners)

101 (9) 111600 JOSEPH'S WINE 42 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Houghton) D Nicholls 5-9-4 ... Alex Greaves 76
102 (20) 11/23/0 ALJADEER 16 (F,G) (G Shouler) M W Easterby 5-8-13 ... C Munday (7) –
103 (17) 201000 ANTARTICTERN 16 (B,D,F,G) (Consultco Ltd) N Tinkler 4-8-13 ... W Newnes 56
104 (8) 40640-0 INOVAR 16 (J Perteous) C Booth 4-8-13 ... A Culhane –
105 (6) 425060 NOBBY BARNES 38 (F,G) (E Incisa) E Incisa 5-8-13 ... Kim Tinkler 71
106 (10) 30-0544 TAPATCH 42J (F) (Miss V Foster) G Moore 6-8-13 ... L Dettori 73
107 (15) 601124 TOP SHIEL 25 (D,G) (Mrs E Burke) K Burke 6-8-13 ... J Tate (3) 92
108 (19) 405345 INDIE ROCK 77 (B) (Mrs P Makin) P Makin 4-8-11 ... R Perham 80
109 (14) 241304 BESCABY BOY 5 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Moore) J Wharton 8-8-10 ... K Darley 87
110 (21) 0-05000 NORD LYS 8 (B) (J Burke) F Lee 3-8-10 ... A Clark 54
111 (5) 023013 GREEK GOLD 7 (D,G) (T Connors) D Nicholls 5-8-9 ... M Birch 88
112 (18) 010-000 MAJOR YAASI 19 (D,F) (J Glover) J Glover 4-8-9 ... S D Williams 80
113 (7) 324560 MELODY DANCER 36 (V) (T Chiang) S Norton 3-8-6 ... J Fortune 76
114 (12) 602204 SUNDAY NEWS'N'ECHO 11 (D,G) (F Kalla) P Kelleway 3-8-4 ... Paul Eddery ●
115 (1) 416600 PERDITION 15 (F) (G Collister) J Hills 4-8-3 ... D Harrison 91
116 (11) 55-000 JUST JUNIOR 11 (B) (G & J Comben) T Naughton 3-8-1 ... J Fanning –
117 (16) 0-0503 MY TIME 16 (Ibra Racing Company) J Hills 3-8-0 ... M Henry (7) 87
118 (2) 005033 KALOU 17 (V) (Mrs M Butler) C W C Elsey 3-7-12 ... P Fessey (7) 76
119 (13) 000400 TIMES ZANDO 29 (B,F,G) (Times of Wigan) J Wilson 3-7-12 ... D Wright (5) 70
120 (22) 356-040 MIGHTY KINGDOM 19 (B) (J Purcell) R Emery 3-7-11 ... Darren Moffatt (5) 64
121 (3) 061420 MILLIE'S DREAM 26 (F) (P Asquith) F Lee 3-7-11 ... N Carlisle –
122 (4) 46-00 RED QUEEN 161 (G Smith) J Wilson 3-7-10 ... N Adams –

BETTING: 6-1 Sunday News'n'echo, 7-1 Top Shiel, 8-1 My Time, Tapatch, 10-1 Bescaby Boy, Joseph's Wine, 12-1 Kalou, Perdition, 14-1 Melody Dancer, 16-1 Nobby Barnes, 20-1 others.

1993: DEE RAFT 3-8-11 D Holland (8-1) B Hills 21 ran

2.10 RACING POST CONDITIONS STAKES (£7,546: 7f) (9 runners)

201 (5) 041031 CARRANITA 16 (D,G,S) (Lamb Lane Associates) B Palling 4-9-5 ... T Sprake 94
202 (7) 330453 STORITHS 50 (B,C,F,G) (Mrs M Irwin) J Watts 4-9-3 ... B Thomson 92
203 (2) 141/600 BEGGARMAN THIEF 28 (D,F,S) (L Knight) J Gosden 4-9-1 ... L Dettori 90
204 (1) 063055 MONTENDRE 7 (F,G) (D Mort) M McCormack 7-9-1 ... G Carter ●
205 (8) 11-2115 MARY HINGE 133 (F,S) (Mrs J Cecil) Mrs J Cecil 3-9-0 ... Paul Eddery 91
206 (4) 506120 MUR TAASHA 15 (C,D,BF,F,G) (H Al Maktoum) R Armstrong 3-8-12 ... W Carson 98
207 (9) 5-13000 CRACKHILL FARM 9 (F) (J Hanson) J Hanson 3-8-9 ... N Connorton 89
208 (6) 1341 MADARY 9 (D,F,G) (H Salem) C Brittain 3-8-8 ... B Doyle 96
209 (3) 305143 I'M YOUR LADY 17 (F) (M Stokes) B McMahon 3-8-4 ... J Fortune 78

BETTING: 7-2 Storiths, 4-1 Carranita, 5-1 Montendre, Mur Taasha, 6-1 Beggarman Thief, Madary, 8-1 Mary Hinge, 20-1 Crackhill Farm, 25-1 I'm Your Lady.

1993: HALF TERM 3-8-9 L Dettori (Evens fav) J Gosden 8 ran

2.40 DONCASTER RACECOURSE EXHIBITION CENTRE RATED HANDICAP (£7,087: 5f) (10 runners)

301 (4) 552010 GORINSKY 14 (C,D,F,G,S) (W Robertson) J Berry 6-9-7 ... J Carroll 94
302 (9) 653120 SAINT EXPRESS 35 (C,D,F,G) (D Hall) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-1 ... J Fortune 89
303 (10) 266120 ALZIANAH 14 (D,BF,G,S) (Shaikh Amin Dahlawi) J Bethell 3-9-1 ... W Carson 94
304 (7) 0-01400 PETE AFRIQUE 35 (D,F,S) (P Savill) M W Easterby 3-9-1 ... K Darley 87
305 (8) 614600 LORD HIGH ADMIRAL 45 (CD,F,G,S) (E Young) M Heaton-Ellis 6-8-13 R Perham 89
306 (3) 110042 ASHTINA 7 (D,F,G,S) (Ms S Joyner) R Hodges 9-8-13 ... L Dettori 96
307 (6) 206024 INHERENT MAGIC 22 (CD,G) (Mrs S Steward) M McCormack 5-8-12 B Thomson 95
308 (1) 000402 ROYALE FIGURINE 14 (CD,F,G,S) (C Pearman) M F-Godley 3-8-11 ... D Harrison ●
309 (5) 000031 TAKADOU 23 (D,F) (F Tyldesley) Miss L Siddall 3-8-7 ... W Newnes 94
310 (2) 100312 ANOTHER EPISODE 31 (D,F,G,S) (Palacegate Corp Ltd) J Berry 5-8-7 P Roberts (7) 86

Long handicap: Another Episode 8-3.

BETTING: 7-2 Royale Figurine, 5-1 Ashtina, Inherent Magic, 6-1 Gorinsky, 7-1 Takadou, 8-1 Alzianah, Saint Express, 10-1 Lord High Admiral, 16-1 Another Episode, Pete Afrique.

1993: INHERENT MAGIC 4-8-7 Pat Eddery (3-1) M McCormack 11 ran

3.10 LEVY BOARD NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £5,572: 7f) (17 runners) C4

401 (12) 5465 GULF SHAADI 23 (M Saeed) C Brittain 9-7 ... B Doyle 80
402 (15) 313603 TIME OF TROUBLE 8 (B,F) (Shaikh Mohammed) J Watts 9-6 ... L Dettori 97
403 (2) 0331 EMIRATES EXPRESS 25 (D,G) (A bin Saeed Al Maktoum) J Hills 9-2 ... R Hills 91
404 (6) 00323 POIGNARD 18 (BF) (Lord Swaythling) J Dunlop 9-1 ... W Carson 93
405 (1) 4344 GOOD RIDDANCE 17 (J Hanson) C Thornton 8-13 ... Dean McKeown 94
406 (17) 06630 SPIRITUELLE 21 (Lord Marchwood) M McCormack 8-12 ... B Thomson 89
407 (13) 522110 DONNA VIOLA 25 (D,F) (K Scott) C Wall 8-12 ... W Woods 98
408 (3) 333010 KEMO SABO 16 (BF,S) (P Locke) Mrs J Ramsden 8-12 ... D Harrison 98
409 (8) 5432 ORCHIDARMA 8 (Lord Matthews) R Williams 8-10 ... Paul Eddery 97
410 (10) 442310 FAME AGAIN 16 (S) (Mrs J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 8-9 ... J Carroll 92
411 (7) 001130 CHALDON HERRING 8 (D,BF,G) (D Scott) T Barron 8-7 ... J Fortune 95
412 (11) 01400 WICKEN WONDER 9 (F) (W Heard) B Hills 8-1 ... G Carter ●
413 (5) 0000 DECEIT THE SECOND 32 (N Bedacki) G Lewis 7-11 ... N Adams 80
414 (16) 32360 QUALITAIR PRIDE 9 (Qualitair Holdings Ltd) J Bottomley 7-11 ... N Kennedy 92
415 (4) 305315 SAINT AMIGO 7 (D,S) (E Richmond) J Eyre 7-10 ... J Fanning 97
416 (14) 0032 BLAZE OF SONG 40 (D Boocock) R Hannon 7-9 ... D Wright (5) 95
417 (9) 042050 SAMANA CAY 32 (The Pure Gold Partnership) E Dunlop 7-7 ... J Tate (3) 87

Long handicap: Samana Kay 6-13.

BETTING: 6-1 Time Of Trouble, 8-1 Poignard, 10-1 Blaze Of Song, Chaldon Herring, Emirates Express, Good Riddance, Kemo Sabo, Wicken Wonder, 12-1 Donna Viola, Fame Again, 14-1 Saint Amigo, 16-1 others.

1993: DIESAN 9-12 L Dettori (8-1) J Gosden 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

GULF SHAADI 5l 5th of 15 to Painter's Row in maiden at Newmarket (7f, good to firm) TIME OF TROUBLE 3l 3rd of 21 to Wardara in nursery at Newmarket (6f, good). EMIRATES EXPRESS beat Night Wink 1l in 13-runner maiden at Brighton (7f, good). POIGNARD ½l 2nd of 13 to Lab Test in nursery at Goodwood (7f, good) on penultimate start. ORCHIDARMA 1½l 2nd of 3 to Sea Gune in a maiden at Newmarket (7f, good to firm) CHALDON HERRING neck and 3l 3rd of 15 to In Good Faith in nursery at York (1m, good to soft) with KEMO SABO (4lb better off) 11l 5th and FAME AGAIN (1lb better off) 3l 11th. BLAZE OF SONG 5l 2nd of 16 to In Waiting in nursery at Bath (1m, good).
Selection: CHALDON HERRING

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ..... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified) Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.40 RACING POST TROPHY (Group I: 2-Y-O colts and fillies: £90,758: 1m) (9 runners) C4

501 (8) 411 ANNUS MIRABILIS 22 (F,S) (Shaikh Mohammed) M Stoute 9-0 ... L Dettori 81
502 (5) 11 CELTIC SWING 14 (F,G) (P Savill) Lady Herries 9-0 ... K Darley ●
503 (7) 151 DON CORLEONE 25 (F,G) (W Said) R Charlton 9-0 ... D Harrison 87
504 (9) 4 EWAR IMPERIAL 16 (A Richards) C Brittain 9-0 ... B Doyle
505 (4) 114314 FAHAL 28 (D,F,G) (H Al Maktoum) D Morley 9-0 ... R Hills 83
506 (6) 612 FILL THE BILL 7 (S) (J McLoughlin) J McLoughlin (Ire) 9-0 ... N G McCullagh 76
507 (1) 211 INDIAN LIGHT 63 (D,G) (Lord Swaythling) J Dunlop 9-0 ... NON-RUNNER –
508 (2) 6213 JUYUSH 28 (F) (H Al Maktoum) B Hills 9-0 ... W Carson 88
509 (3) 1 SECKAR VALE 37 (S) (J Hanson) J Hanson 9-0 ... M Birch 63

BETTING: 4-6 Celtic Swing, 5-1 Annus Mirabilis, Juyush, 7-1 Don Corleone, 16-1 Fahal, 50-1 Fill The Bill, Seckar Vale, 200-1 Ewar Imperial.

1993: KING'S THEATRE 9-0 W Ryan (9-2) H Cecil 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANNUS MIRABILIS beat Mohab 1¼l in 7-runner listed race at Newmarket (7f, good to firm). CELTIC SWING beat Singspiel 8l in 6-runner conditions race at Ascot (7f, good to firm). DON CORLEONE beat Maid For Walking 1¼l in 28-runner auction race at Newmarket (7f, good). FILL THE BILL 6l 2nd of 6 to Burden Of Proof in group III Juddmonte Beresford Stakes at the Curragh (1m, yielding to soft). JUYUSH 1½l and neck 3rd to Eltish in group II Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot (1m, good to soft) with FAHAL 2l 4th. SECKAR VALE beat Last Roundup 2½l in 12-runner maiden at Ayr (7f, good to soft).
Selection: ANNUS MIRABILIS

4.15 DONCASTER STAKES (Listed race: 2-Y-O: £8,140: 6f) (8 runners) C4

601 (1) 131045 STATOM 20 (D,S) (A Balzarini) M Channon 9-4 ... P Robinson 79
602 (3) 1 BAHITH 24 (D,G) (H Al Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 8-9 ... R Hills 72
603 (6) 0301 BELFRY 11 (G) (Highclere Thoroughbred Racing Ltd) R Charlton 8-9 ... K Darley 81
604 (4) 14555 GREAT BEAR 14 (G) (Lady Rothschild) R Johnson Houghton 8-9 ... T Sprake 92
605 (2) 421 LEAP FOR JOY 21 (D,F) (S Hata) J Gosden 8-4 ... L Dettori 73
606 (8) 3612 OVERBROOK 14 (D,G) (Sir William Purves) I Balding 8-4 ... Paul Eddery 88
607 (7) 203221 PAINTED MADAM 7 (D,F) (N Murray) B Hills 8-4 ... B Thomson ●
608 (5) 0 ZELIBA 12 (Shaikh Marwan Al Maktoum) C Brittain 8-4 ... B Doyle –

BETTING: 9-4 Painted Madam, 3-1 Overbrook, 7-2 Statom, 5-1 Great Bear, 6-1 Belfry, Leap For Joy, 8-1 others.

1993: ULTIMO IMPERATORE 8-12 L Piggott (16-1) J Dunlop 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

STATOM 9½l 4th to Sri Pekan in group II Champagne Stakes at Doncaster (7f, good) on penultimate start. BAHITH beat Hotspur Street head in maiden at Newcastle (6f, good). BELFRY beat Mutarej 1¼l in maiden at Leicester (7f, good). GREAT BEAR 5¾l 5th to Princely Hush in group II Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury (6f, soft). LEAP FOR JOY beat Anna-Jane 1¼l in maiden at Goodwood (6f, good to firm). OVERBROOK 4l 2nd of 7 to Millstream in group III Cornwallis Stakes at Ascot (5f, good to firm) PAINTED MADAM beat Green Palm Tree 7l in conditions race at Catterick (5f, good to firm). Previously short-head 2nd of 6 to Sumoquinn in listed race at York (6f, good to soft) with GREAT BEAR 8½l 5th.
Selection: PAINTED MADAM

4.45 LADBROKE HANDICAP (£12,135: 1m 4f) (13 runners) C4

1 (6) 5-20010 GONE FOR A BURTON 9 (F,S) (H Carrington) P Makin 4-9-10 ... L Dettori 88
2 (3) 221211 PENNY A DAY 17 (D,G,S) (J Good) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-7 ... K Darley 89
3 (13) 151565 SLASHER JACK 9 (D,F,G) (T Chang) S Norton 3-9-3 ... J Tate (3) 91
4 (7) 050004 HIGHFLYING 9 (C,D,F,G,S) (B Batey) G Moore 8-9-2 ... M Tebbutt 95
5 (8) 010-5 UNCLE OSWALD 9 (F) (Nimrod Company) R Hannon 3-9-1 ... B Thomson 92
6 (10) 062241 DORMY THREE 7 (D,F,G) (P Slade) R Hodges 4-9-0 ... Paul Eddery ●
7 (2) 616050 BIT ON THE SIDE 22 (D,G,S) (M Haslett) W Musson 5-9-0 ... D R McCabe (5) 93
8 (5) 221454 MUSEUM 8 (D,S) (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) H Candy 3-8-12 ... W Newnes 93
9 (4) 003500 BOLOARDO 28 (F,S) (B Vaalg) C Brittain 5-8-11 ... B Doyle 95
10 (12) 015062 WEST BUOYANT 15 (F) (S Khaled) J Dunlop 3-8-11 ... W Carson 95
11 (11) 310461 LA RIVERAINE 12 (D,G) (J Richmond-Watson) J Hills 3-8-11 ... M Henry (7) 93
12 (9) 422302 WALSHAM WHISPER 22 (V,F) (J Ellis) M Tompkins 3-8-10 ... P Robinson 92
13 (1) 001221 PROTON 23 (G,S) (Tony Alper Garages Ltd) R Akehurst 4-8-3 ... A Clark 98

BETTING: 6-1 Penny A Day, 13-2 Proton, 7-1 Uncle Oswald, 8-1 Bit On The Side, Museum, Walsham Whisper, West Buoyant, 10-1 Gone For A Burton, La Riveraine, 12-1 Dormy Three, 14-1 Highflying, 16-1 others.

1993: IN THE MONEY 4-7-7 A Garth (14-1) R Hollinshead 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

PENNY A DAY short-head 2nd (later placed 1st) of 15 to Beauman in handicap at Haydock (1m 4f, soft) UNCLE OSWALD about 5¾l 5th of 11 to Acting Brave in handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good) with GONE FOR A BURTON (3lb better off) 21½l 10th. DORMY THREE beat Neatstep 2½l in 15-runner claimer at Catterick (1m 4f, good to firm). BIT ON THE SIDE about 3¾l 5th of 16 to Warm Spell in handicap at Newbury (1m 5f 61yd, soft) on penultimate start. MUSEUM 5¼l 4th of 10 to Trans Siberia in handicap at Newmarket (1m 6f, good to firm). WEST BUOYANT 1¾l 2nd of 13 to Blushing Flame in handicap at Ascot (1m 4, good to firm). LA RIVERAINE beat Golden Arrow 2½l in 10-runner handicap at Leicester (1m 4yd, good). WALSHAM WHISPER neck 2nd of 15 to Sherman in handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm). PROTON beat Stalled ½l in amateurs' rated stakes at Lingfield (1m 3f 106yd, good to soft)
Selection: WALSHAM WHISPER

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M F-Godley	6	21	28.6	L Dettori	26	182	14.3
R Armstrong	12	43	27.9	P Robinson	7	52	13.5
J Gosden	36	135	26.7	A Clark	3	23	13.0
B Hills	29	119	24.4	W Carson	29	225	12.9
M Stoute	18	103	17.5	K Darley	23	199	11.6
R Charlton	5	29	17.2	N Carlisle	8	69	11.6

□ Precede (Richard Quinn), Spaghetti House (Giovanni Forte) and Court Of Honour (John Reid) are the British-trained runners in the group one £57,760 Gran Criterium (1m) at San Siro, Milan, tomorrow. Paul Cole's Precede misses the Racing Post Trophy for this race, while the John Dunlop-trained Spaghetti House is unbeaten in three starts, all in Italy. Cole, with Girl From Ipanema, and Dunlop, with Sovinista, are also represented in the group three £25,607 Premio Bagutta (1m).

NEWBURY

THUNDERER

1.20 Threatening
1.50 Opera Lover
2.20 Sadler's Image
3.00 Midyan Blue
3.30 Make Time
4.05 La Contessa
4.35 Romios

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.30 **MAKE TIME** (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN BACK STRAIGHT) SIS
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

1.20 BREEDERS CUP GALA EVENING RATED HANDICAP (£7,568: 1m 1f) (10 runners) BBC1

1 (10) 30-3020 RISK MASTER 70 (C,G) (Mrs B Sumner) C Horgan 5-9-7 ... J Reid 92
2 (5) 203443 EMBANKMENT 14 (F,S) (Lady Tennant) R Hannon 4-9-4 ... Pat Eddery 95
3 (8) 003654 MR MARTINI 16 (B,F,G) (Parrot Racing) C Brittain 4-9-2 ... M Roberts 97
4 (2) 1-35041 SHERMAN 22 (B,F,G) (Mrs H Jones) H Thomson Jones 3-9-0 ... W Ryan 98
5 (9) 1-11000 STASH THE CASH 42 (C,G,S) (J Davis) R Hannon 3-8-13 ... T Quinn 93
6 (6) 066030 THREATENING 28 (G,S) (Lord Matthews) R Williams 3-8-10 ... G Duffield 98
7 (3) 1-3004 FINGER OF LIGHT 9 (V,S) (Stallwell Stud Co Ltd) M Stoute 3-8-8 W R Swinburn 97
8 (4) 052130 SECOND CHANCE 29 (D,F,G,S) (Down and Outs) P Mitchell 4-8-7 S Sanders (5) 90
9 (1) 050500 LOUISVILLE BELLE 11 (C,G) (Mrs M Pearson) M Usher 5-8-7 ... J Williams 70
10 (7) 111102 MAGIC JUNCTION 33 (D,G) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-3 ... J Weaver ●

Long handicap (4-y-o+): Second Chance 7-13, Louisville Belle 6-5. (3-y-o): Magic Junction 7-13.

BETTING: 4-1 Finger Of Light, 5-1 Sherman, 6-1 Magic Junction, Embankment, Stash The Cash, 7-1 Risk Master, 8-1 Threatening, 10-1 others.

1993: BOLD STROKE 4-8-9 J Reid (10-1) J Dunlop 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

RISK MASTER 1½l 2nd of 9 to Dawning Street in handicap at Sandown (1m, good to soft) on penultimate start. EMBANKMENT 2l and neck 3rd of 11 to Alfazzal in handicap at Ascot (1m 2f, good to firm). MR MARTINI about 1¼l 4th of 9 to Carranita in handicap at York (7f, good to soft). SHERMAN beat Walsham Whisper neck in 15-runner handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm). STASH THE CASH 16l 9th of 11 to Soviet Line in listed race at Kempton (1m, good) penultimate start. THREATENING 2l and short-head 3rd of 8 to Cajun Cadet in handicap at Kempton (1m, soft) on penultimate start with EMBANKMENT (1lb better off) 4l 4th. FINGER OF LIGHT about 2l 4th of 28 to Polish Admiral in handicap at Newmarket (7f, good). MAGIC JUNCTION successful four times on all-weather surface at Wolverhampton in January and February; latest start, 1¼l 2nd to Ringmaster in Pontefract handicap (1m 2f, good to soft).
Selection: SHERMAN

1.50 NEWGATE STUD RADLEY STAKES (Listed race: 2-Y-O fillies: £10,755: 7f 64yd) (11 runners) BBC1

1 (10) 1111 HIWAYA 21 (D,G,S) (H Al Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 8-11 ... M Roberts ●
2 (4) 11111 LOUIS' QUEEN 35 (D,F,G,S) (P Winfield) J Dunlop 8-11 ... J Reid 86
3 (5) 12 AL RAWDA 112 (F) (Prince A A Faisal) H Cecil 8-8 ... A McGlone 92
4 (2) 3 CARAMBA 15 (Lord Carnarvon) R Hannon 8-8 ... L Piggott 72
5 (9) 3312 CHATTEL 25 (S) (Lady Rothschild) R Charlton 8-8 ... Pat Eddery 88
6 (3) 100120 CIRCA 9 (G) (Roldvale Ltd) G Lewis 8-8 ... G Hind 85
7 (1) 41 DASHING WATER 18 (D,S) (J Smith) I Balding 8-8 ... R Cochrane 72
8 (8) 1 FAR FETCHED 62 (G) (Lord Weinstock) Lord Huntingdon 8-8 ... J Weaver 74
9 (11) 014 OPERA LOVER 44 (G) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Stoute 8-8 ... W R Swinburn 92
10 (6) 0 SPARROWHAWK 8 (R Sangster) B Hills 8-8 ... M Hills –
11 (7) 220611 SYLVANDRA 11 (G) (Mrs P Wyatt) P Murphy 8-8 ... J Williams 86

BETTING: 3-1 Hiwaya, 4-1 Opera Lover, 9-2 Louis' Queen, 7-1 Caramba, 8-1 Al Rawda, Far Fetched, Dashing Water, 10-1 others.

1993: BEARALL 8-8 B Rouse (10-1) R Hannon 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

HIWAYA beat Germane neck in 8-runner listed race at Newmarket (7f, good). LOUIS' QUEEN beat Fleet Hill neck in 9-runner listed race at San Siro (7f 110yd, heavy) AL RAWDA ¾l 2nd of 4 to Watch The Clock in conditions race at Beverley (7f 100yd, good to firm). CHATTEL short-head 2nd of 21 to Caerphilly in nursery at Newmarket (7f, good). DASHING WATER beat La Gran Senorita 4l in 11-runner maiden at Warwick (7f, soft) FAR FETCHED beat Prime Match head in 19-runner maiden at Ripon (6f, good). OPERA LOVER about 3l 4th of 11 to Mamlakah in group III Abu Dhabi May Hill Stakes at Doncaster (1m, good). SYLVANDRA beat Star Tulip head in 7-runner conditions race at Chepstow (6f, good).
Selection: OPERA LOVER

2.20 CASTROL ST SIMON STAKES (Group III: £20,400: 1m 4f 5yd) (10 runners) BBC1

1 (2) 615042 KEY TO MY HEART 35 (D,F,S) (Mrs M Pickering) D Moffatt 4-9-5 ... J Reid 98
2 (4) 430034 SHAMBO 82 (C,D,F,G) (Mrs C Brittain) C Brittain 7-9-3 ... M Roberts 83
3 (8) 0-61510 DUKE OF EUROLINK 28 (D,F,G) (Eurolink Group Plc) J Dunlop 5-9-0 R Cochrane 92
4 (1) 0-21036 LINPAC WEST 35 (CD,G,S) (Group 1 Racing 1993 Ltd) C W C Elsey 8-9-0 G Hind 88
5 (7) 126233 PERSIAN BRAVE 42 (D,F,G,S) (R Michaelson) M Bell 4-9-0 ... M Hills 88
6 (6) 4-42310 SHREWD IDEA 68 (D,F,G) (F Bermudez) D Loder 4-9-0 ... W Ryan 87
7 (3) 006000 DANA SPRINGS 30 (B,D,F,G,S) (G Howard-Spink) R Hannon 4-8-11 . Pat Eddery 75
8 (5) 3-60012 LILLE HAMMER 14 (D,G,S) L Cumani 4-8-11 ... J Weaver 94
9 (10) 131011 SADLER'S IMAGE 22 (D,F,G,S) M Stoute 3-8-7 ... W R Swinburn ●
10 (9) 21502 STRATEGIC CHOICE 22 (G,F) (M Arbib) P Cole 3-8-7 ... T Quinn 95

BETTING: 9-4 Sadler's Image, 3-1 Strategic Choice, 4-1 Lille Hammer, 10-1 Persian Brave, 12-1 Shrewd Idea, 14-1 Linpac West, 16-1 Duke Of Eurolink, Shambo, 20-1 Key To My Heart, 25-1 Dana Springs.

1993: KITHANGA 3-8-4 J Weaver (4-1 fav) L Cumani 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

KEY TO MY HEART 1½l 2nd of 4 to Dancing Bloom in listed race at Ayr (1m 3f, good to soft) SHAMBO 9l 3rd of 6 to Red Route in group II Geoffrey Freer Stakes here (1m 5f 61yd, good to firm) on penultimate start. DUKE OF EUROLINK beat Spinning ¾l in 6-runner conditions race at Goodwood (1m 4f, good) on penultimate start. PERSIAN BRAVE 5l and short-head 3rd of 7 to Close Conflict in conditions race at Chepstow (1m 2f, good to soft). SHREWD IDEA best recent effort beat ½l 3l in 3-runner conditions race at Chepstow (1m 4f, firm) LILLE HAMMER 1¼l 2nd of 7 to Dancing Bloom in group III Princess Royal Stakes at Ascot (1m 4f, good to firm); previously beat Mishelief 1¼l in listed race at Ascot (1m 4f, good to soft) SADLER'S IMAGE beat STRATEGIC CHOICE (3lb worse off) neck in 9-runner listed race at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm).
Selection: SADLER'S IMAGE (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
P Chapple-Hyam	29	90	32.2	Pat Eddery	52	284	18.3
H Cecil	23	96	24.0	J Weaver	4	22	18.2
C W C Elsey	3	13	23.1	J Reid	34	223	15.2
L Cumani	15	71	21.1	W R Swinburn	25	185	13.5
H Thomson Jones	4	24	16.7	M Roberts	34	263	12.9
R Charlton	19	115	16.5	R Cochrane	22	198	11.1

3.00 NEW GOLF COURSE HANDICAP (£6,223: 1m 4f 5yd) (16 runners)

1 (9) 121080 LOOKINGFORARAINBOW 22 (D,F,G) (B Saundaly) Bob Jones 6-10-0 M Wigham 88
2 (16) 00025-0 REQUESTED 133 (F,G) (Mrs S Marks) P Burgoyne 7-9-11 ... J Stack (5) 87
3 (5) 55/1-112 HOLY WANDERER 219J (D,BF,G) (Mrs J Lett) D Arbuthnot 5-9-8 ... T Quinn 90
4 (4) 000132 WARM SPELL 11 (CD,BF,G,S) (K Higson) G L Moore 4-9-7 ... B Rouse 94
5 (7) 010 MURAYAH 122 (F) (H Al Maktoum) R Armstrong 3-9-6 ... R Price 80
6 (1) 020023 MIDYAN BLUE 17 (BF,G) (K Palmer) J Eustace 4-9-3 ... J Weaver 98
7 (13) 1-24301 FOLLY FINNESSE 19 (S) (R Wilkes) B Millman 3-9-2 ... J Williams 95
8 (3) 406211 DISKETTE 16 (D,G,S) (M Oberstein) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-2 ... M Roberts 94
9 (8) 42016/0- MAJOR BUGLER 280J (S) (M Kerr-Dineen) G Balding 5-9-1 ... S Drowne (5) –
10 (6) 535330 DRUMMER HICKS 17 (F,G,S) (Mrs N Napier) E Weymes 5-8-11 ... R Cochrane ●
11 (14) 055010 SHADOW LEADER 7 (D,S) (J Blackshaw) Miss A Whitfield 3-8-11 ... R Painter (5) 97
12 (2) 30023-0 HOSTILE WITNESS 23 (The Pink Panthers) P Hedger 4-8-10 ... Stephen Davies 90
13 (10) 234005 DANCING SENSATION 15 (D,F,S) (Chelgate PR Ltd) R Akehurst 7-8-10 Pat Eddery 98
14 (15) 051060 WILDFIRE 12 (D,S) (R Kilby) R Akehurst 3-8-5 ... A McGlone 88
15 (12) 4500-00 WHO'S THE BEST 33 (F) (Mrs A Jarvis) A Jarvis 4-7-7 ... N Varley (5) 85
16 (11) 060050 ARIAN SPIRIT 18 (Mrs R Brown) W Musson 3-7-7 ... Martin Dwyer (7) 74

Long handicap: Who's The Best 7-5, Arian Spirit 6-5.

BETTING: 6-1 Warm Spell, 7-1 Diskette, 8-1 Folly Finnesse, 10-1 Dancing Sensation, Murayah, Shadow Leader, Midyan Blue, 12-1 others.

1993: MIDYAN BLUE 3-9-3 B Raymond (11-1) J Eustace 21 ran

3.30 DICK DAWSON NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £6,118: 6f 8yd) (18 runners)

1 (14) 321102 STAR TULIP 11 (D,BF,F,S) (N Jones) J Dunlop 9-7 ... J Reid 92
2 (9) 143630 RIGSBY 9 (G) (M Foy) M Channon 9-5 ... T Quinn 83
3 (18) 045631 ENDLESS WAVE 19 (S) (Mrs M Caine) M Bell 9-4 ... M Fenton 82
4 (13) 202363 Q FACTOR 37 (H Collis) D Haydn Jones 8-11 ... A Mackay 85
5 (2) 301020 GALLOWS CORNER 42 (D,G) (B Adams) R Hannon 8-8 ... W R Swinburn 89
6 (8) 2354 FATA 30 (V) (H Al Maktoum) P Walwyn 8-8 ... M Hills 89
7 (5) 311 RED DART 28 (D,G,S) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Prescott 8-8 ... G Duffield 98
8 (6) 345032 SOLO PRIZE 17 (S) (White Bear Ltd) G Lewis 8-7 ... Pat Eddery 90
9 (12) 6503 GONE PROFESSIONAL 23 (J Smith) D Elsworth 8-7 ... M Roberts 80
10 (16) 643210 SUE ME 9 (D,S) (M Payton) W Muir 8-5 ... J Weaver 94
11 (1) 611 MAKE TIME 19 (D,G,S) (Furlong Associates) J Pearce 8-4 ... S Lanigan (7) ●
12 (11) 330 MAYBE TODAY 12 (J Connor) B Millman 8-4 ... A Whelan (7) 81
13 (17) 006 MISTY MELODY 11 (The Fairy Story Partnership) R Akehurst 8-0 ... A McGlone 80
14 (15) 003 TIME IS MONEY 60 (J Lewison) M Tompkins 8-0 ... S Mulvey (5) 82
15 (7) 02201 WARDARA 9 (B,D,G) (Miss J Crowley) Miss G Kelleway 7-12 ... L Charnock 91
16 (3) 510600 SALLY WELD 21 (D,F) (P Lamb) C Benstead 7-11 ... J Lowe 95
17 (10) 0044 BLASTED 24 (J Palmer-Wilson) R Hannon 7-10 ... G Bardwell 92
18 (4) 41090 ROTHERFIELD PARK 38 (G) (The Pure Gold Partnership) E Dunlop 7-7 .. J Quinn 91

Long handicap: Rotherfield Park 7-4.

BETTING: 5-1 Make Time, 7-1 Star Tulip, Red Dart, 8-1 Endless Wave, 10-1 Fata, Wardara, 12-1 others.

1993: CANASKA DANCER 9-7 J Reid (100-30 fav) P Chapple-Hyam 13 ran

4.05 WHATCOMBE DAYLIGHT EXTRA CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,450: 1m) (7 runners)

1 (7) 0106 AXEMAN 9 (F) (The Winning Team) R Hannon 8-8 ... Pat Eddery ●
2 (5) 1 JUDGE ADVOCATE 21 (F) (Whitways Racing) D Chappell 9-0 ... Stephen Davies 85
3 (2) 4021 TE AMO 24 (G) (Fairway Ltd) R Akehurst 9-0 ... T Quinn 86
4 (3) 1100 LA CONTESSA 28 (F,B) (P Fiasts) B Hills 8-11 ... M Hills 96
5 (4) MEZAAN (Maza Al Maktoum) M Stoute 8-11 ... W R Swinburn –
6 (1) SILVER STING (G Stanbridge) I Balding 8-11 ... R Cochrane –
7 (6) SPECTRUM (Lord Weinstock) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11 ... J Reid –

BETTING: 4-1 Spectrum, 9-2 La Contessa, Silver Sting, 5-1 Te Amo, Mezaan, Axeman, 6-1 Judge Advocate.

1993: STAR SELECTION 8-11 M Roberts (10-11 fav) P Cole 5 ran

4.35 LEVY BOARD NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £4,232: 7f 64yd) (22 runners)

1 (3) 14351 ROMIOS 16 (B,D,S) (C Stelacolas) P Cole 9-7 ... T Quinn 94
2 (6) 1604 RUPIANA 16 (D,F) (Mrs M Keogh) J Arnold 9-5 ... D Griffiths (5) 89
3 (2) 453 OLD KINGDOM 119 (BF) (Shaikh Mohammed) P Chapple-Hyam 9-5 ... J Reid 82
4 (15) 042155 ROWLANDSONS ROCKS 21 (G) (Rowlandsons Jewellers) B Meehan 9-3 J Weaver 92
5 (21) 4080 NIGHT TIME 21 (J Palmer-Brown) R Hannon 9-3 ... W R Swinburn 85
6 (12) 012254 ASTRAL INVADER 9 (F,S) (R Kelly) M Saunders 8-12 ... Pat Eddery 90
7 (5) 55215 OWDBETTS 64 (D,F) (K Higson) G L Moore 8-12 ... B Rouse 88
8 (16) 004 DOMINION'S DREAM 18 (Mrs B Cuthbert) B Smart 8-11 ... W Ryan 80
9 (7) 660064 POLY AMANSHAA 9 (D,G) (Steel & Roll Convertors Ltd) M Channon 8-5 F Norton 83
10 (13) 01535 SUILE MOR 40 (D,F) (Harmony Racing) B Millman 8-5 ... A Whelan (7) 99
11 (9) 614005 SCISSOR RIDGE 24 (D,G) (T Mitchell) J Bridger 8-5 ... J Williams 90
12 (1) 30010 TONKA 23 (D,S) (N Bowyer) D Murray Smith 8-4 ... A Mackay 92
13 (10) 0001 HI-AUD 22 (D,F) (A Sparks) J Akehurst 8-4 ... S Sanders (5) 80
14 (14) 0520 NOBLE NEPTUNE 17 (BF) (Mrs R Brown) W Musson 8-3 ... G Hind 97
15 (19) 412001 LEES PLEASE 19 (D,F,S) (M Brunton) K Cunningham-Brown 8-1 ... J Quinn ●
16 (17) 654453 JACKATACK 9 (BF) (F Tapping) M Channon 8-1 ... C Rutter 90
17 (11) 000034 TARA COLLEEN 19 (Friary Bloodstock Ltd) C Horgan 8-0 ... T Williams 91
18 (20) 000 TAFAHHUS 21 (H Al Maktoum) R Armstrong 7-13 ... R Price 91
19 (22) 000 JEWEL TRADER 57 (J Hollies) C Benstead 7-13 ... J Lowe 87
20 (4) 400 DARK MENACE 26 (A Stroud & Co Ltd) S Mellor 7-13 ... G Bardwell 97
21 (18) 00446 APOLLONO 9 (P Deal) H Candy 7-12 ... S Dawson 96
22 (8) 505163 NEVER SO RITE 19 (D,F) (J Gubbin) D Arbuthnot 7-7 ... C Adamson (7) 89

Long handicap: Never So Rite 7-4.

BETTING: 7-1 Astral Invader, 8-1 Romios, Old Kingdom, 10-1 Rowlandsons Rocks, 12-1 Hi-Aud, Suile Mor, Lees Please, 14-1 Apollono, Jackatack, Poly Amanshaa, 16-1 others.

1993: MILLION LIGHTS 8-12 M Roberts (4-1 fav) R Hannon 19 ran

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Leicester (first race, 1.15), Lingfield Park (1.30).
TUESDAY: Leicester (1.20), Redcar (1.00), Newton Abbot (1.10).
WEDNESDAY: Yarmouth (1.25), Cheltenham (1.10), Fontwell Park (1.35).
THURSDAY: Nottingham (1.20), Sedgefield (1.10), Stratford (2.00).
FRIDAY: Newmarket (1.00), Bangor (1.20), Wetherby (1.10).
SATURDAY: Newmarket (C4, 1.00), Wolverhampton (7.00), Ascot (BBC, 12.55), Warwick (1.15), Wetherby (12.50).

Flat meetings in bold

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G'HOUNDS	122	222	422

Cardiff can set immediate test of South Africans' strength

By David Hands
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHATEVER political events may have come between them — and there has been little love lost between Wales and South Africa over the last decade — it is remarkable that two of the world's historical rugby powers have played each other so little. There have been a mere seven internationals, the last of them in January 1970, none of which Wales have won.

A significant void is bridged at Cardiff Arms Park today when the seventh South African touring side to visit Wales opens its programme against Cardiff in a world much changed since the equivalent fixture on December 13, 1969. Then, they used to write books about rugby tours; now, they watch videos, and the world knows how the other half plays.

Not Mike Hall, though. The Cardiff captain, one of eight internationals in their side, admits ignorance of what to expect. "We are just going out to enjoy ourselves," he said. "We have had league fixtures week in and week out and a few of us have had international pressures. The message here is that we have nothing to lose, so we want to go out and play to the best of our ability."

A chance to relax by playing South Africa? Why not? The onus is on the touring side, playing its first match — which any touring side desperately hopes to win — in unfamiliar conditions and with an unfamiliar referee, although in Jim Fleming, of Scotland, they have one of the few officials acknowledged worldwide as being among the best.

That, together with the demands for a far more disciplined approach than this South Africa side sometimes seem capable of displaying, will make it a difficult opening, even more difficult should it play on the kind of wet surface that it sees so infrequently at home.

Francois Pienaar, the tour captain, who did not train yesterday because of a touch of tendinitis, acknowledges the possibility that opposing teams may set out to provoke his players. "We are not interested in those antics," he said. "Not one penalty was given against South Africa for indiscipline in our last two Tests [against Argentina]. We want to use the experience we acquired in New Zealand and we are trying to run the ball." To such effect that 12 tries were scored against the Argentinians, two each by the lively wings, Chris Badenhorst and Chester Williams.

"We've picked the strongest side we can pick," Kitch Christie, the South Africa coach, said. It includes the two players, Balie Swart and Rudolph Straeuli, the captain today, who have played club rugby in Wales, for Ebbw Vale and Penarth respectively.

Christie tells the story about the springbok head, the time-honoured trophy that is awarded to the first club team to beat South Africa on tour. "I've been told that Gordon Hunter, Otago's coach, just walked into the changing-room with a big hammer, knocked a nail in the wall and said, 'That's where you're going to hang the Springbok Head.' and walked out again. That was all the motivation his players needed to go out and beat South Africa during the summer tour to New Zealand."

The South African management respects the programme its team faces in Wales, and is relieved they do not have to go straight through to the international with Wales. "Taken in a row we have five of the toughest games we face on tour, there's no weak game." Christie said of a schedule that pits them subsequently against Wales A, Llanelli, Neath and Swansea.

Since he plays both for Cardiff today and Wales A in Newport next Wednesday, Derwyn Jones has — literally — a big opportunity. The 6ft 10in policeman has been pressing for an international cap in the second row all year, and a good showing against the most consistent lineout forward South Africa have produced this year, Mark Andrews, and the rugged Drikus Hattingh, will aid his cause.

Having picked Owain Williams on the open-side flank, Cardiff are well blessed for height, but they will be wary of the attacking potential of the South African back division. With Joel Stransky pulling the tactical strings and Brendan Venter organising the midfield, Hall and his colleagues will discover in the first 20 minutes what they have missed from skipping video study.

TEAMS

CARDIFF: C John, S Ford, M Hall, C Laity, N Walker, A Davies, A Moore, M Griffiths, J Humphreys, L Mustoe, H Taylor, S Roy, D Jones, O Williams, E Lewis.

SOUTH AFRICANS: A Joubert; C Williams, B Venter, P Muller, C Badenhorst; J Stransky, J van der Westhuizen; B Swart, U Schmidt, I Hattingh, R Kruger, M Andrews, H Hattingh, R Straeuli, G Teichmann.

Referee: J Fleming (Scotland)

Athletics clubs in mood for changes to league

By David Powell
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

IN THIS year of turmoil for British athletics, the troubles have not been confined to the elite end. While the British Athletic Federation has had to deal with drugs, dismissals and resignations, the Guardian British Athletics League (BAL) has faced unrest among its leading clubs.

A breakaway league was under discussion last night at a meeting of the eight first division clubs and today the BAL holds a seminar when options, such as a six-club top division or splitting the league into area sections, will be considered. The league's committee meets tomorrow to assess what recommendations it might make to the annual meeting on November 19, when any changes would be voted on by the 32 BAL clubs.

Mike Ison, the league secretary, admitted yesterday that the league was facing a split. Since each club has equal voting rights, it would be possible, Ison said, for the lower division clubs to block the wishes of the leading ones.

However, Belgrave Harriers were attempting last night to avert a split. Their proposals included reducing the number of fixtures from four to three and heightening the importance of the cup final by making it the qualifying event for the European clubs' championship.

Some first division clubs favour a midweek league, offering improved scope for television coverage, but Belgrave officials believe their plan is preferable. "To satisfy the thirst for midweek events, the cup final could be in midweek," Bill Laws, the Belgrave joint team manager, said. The cup final would be reduced from two athletes per event to one and offer prize-money for the first four in each. "We are also proposing another midweek meeting, a Guardian League elite against an international select," Laws added.

Belgrave, like the league itself, is anxious to avoid a split out of consideration for Guardian Insurance, the league sponsor for 18 years, and what they have done for the grass roots of the sport.

"People are saying that the fixtures are too crowded, that we do not get enough top athletes out for league meetings, and there is not enough television exposure. Some clubs want a midweek league but we resist that because it would become more elitist, the top clubs would perhaps get more money and make it more attractive for athletes to join them.

"It is not practical to have a midweek league because the athletes are spread around the country. Most are amateur and they would have to take time off work."

Shaw loses chance to impress selectors

WHILE first and second in the league meet at Bath, the third and fourth placed clubs play at Bristol, conscious that England announce their team to play Romania on Monday (David Hands writes). Bristol, a place above Wasps, whom they have yet to beat in the league, are without Simon Shaw, which will be a blow to a player who stands on the edge of international rugby.

Shaw hurt his lower back in a national squad meeting at Marlow and, perhaps ill-advisedly, played last weekend against Gloucester. He rests today, his place at lock going to the veteran, Peter Stiff.

Wasps restore Jeff Probyn to prop and the return of Dean Ryan at No 8 forces Matt Greenwood back to the second row. Sadly, the promising wing, Nick Greenstock, aggravated an ankle injury in the defeat by Oxford University in midweek and the back division remains that which wrought such havoc against Sale.

Will Carling, the England captain, who may be rested against Romania, leads Harlequins against Orrell in the absence of the injured Brian Moore, for whom Jim Hamilton-Smith deputises. Chris Wright, normally a scrum half, plays at stand-off. For Orrell, Jim Naylor, a forceful wing, returns.

For the meeting of the promoted clubs, West Hartlepool are reinforced by Derrick Patterson at scrum half and Kevin Oliphant, whose goal-kicking was sadly missed against Bath, is chosen on the wing. After a two-match suspension, Paul Smith returns to Sale's back row.

Northampton, desperately seeking their first win against an unchanged Gloucester, will have Stuart Juds at full back for the injured Ian Hunter. Grant Seely, a product of the under-21 side, makes his league debut at No 8 with Tim Rodber moving to his likely England position of blind-side flanker.

Bath's proud home record under threat from fellow high-flyers

Leicester regroup for summit meeting

By David Hands

IF WE are not careful, the kind of mythology in football that surrounds Manchester United, and has surrounded Liverpool, will creep up on Bath and Leicester in rugby union. The clubs have put such a distance between themselves and their rivals in the Courage Clubs Championship that, invariably, hyperbole greets their meetings.

Professional sport may come to accept this but, while rugby thrashes about in the amateur debate, club players may usefully remind the game's supporters they still have jobs to go to and that winning brings no material reward save the satisfaction of team success for its own sake.

Thus the first division's two unbeaten teams are distinctly matter-of-fact about their meeting at the Recreation Ground today, adorned though it will be with all the trappings of professional sport: live television, sponsors, and an expected capacity crowd, though some tickets will be available early this morning.

"We know it's a big game but, as players, we don't try to build it up," Martin Johnson, the Leicester and England lock, said yesterday. "Despite their good record at home I have no problem playing at Bath. If we lose away games, as we have done there or at Orrell in the past, it's because those clubs have good teams.

"The atmosphere at the Rec is not intimidating and at Leicester we're used to playing in front of bigger crowds than the 8,000 they will have there. About 2,000 of them will be from Leicester anyway, and they're pretty vocal."

Yet the fact remains that Bath, the champions, have established a marvellous record at home. In eight years they have lost only two league games there, in December 1987 to Waterloo and in March 1991 to Wasps.

Leicester were the only side to dent their league record last season and Bath more than made up by winning the return — at home, of course — and a disappointing Pilkington Cup final at Twickenham. Of the teams that played at Twickenham last May, 13 of the Bath side remain and 12 from Leicester; they know each other well, too well some might argue.

But there have been significant changes. Bath are still overcoming the loss of their experienced half backs, Stuart Barnes and Richard Hill, and have struggled to find their form. West Hartlepool were the better side a week ago, scoring three tries to two, yet still lost. That is the enviable knack Bath have achieved, winning when they are not at their best.

"I think we have acquired that knack too," Tony Russ, the Leicester director of rugby, said. "We under-performed in the two defeats by Bath last season. We need to take the game to them, be really positive and attack them in key areas. That's one reason we have selected John Liley at full back."

Yet both clubs agree that defeat today would not be disastrous, because of the way the season is structured. The demands of the national side will seriously affect both sides in future league matches, starting with Bath's game at Sale and Leicester's at Bristol on November 5, a week before England play Romania, when players who are selected for the international will be rested.

In Leicester's favour, it must be said that, after today, they will have played significant away games at Wasps, Bath, Harlequins and Orrell — the latter two grounds where they have frequently come unstuck — and must hope for equal success at Welford Road in the return encounters.

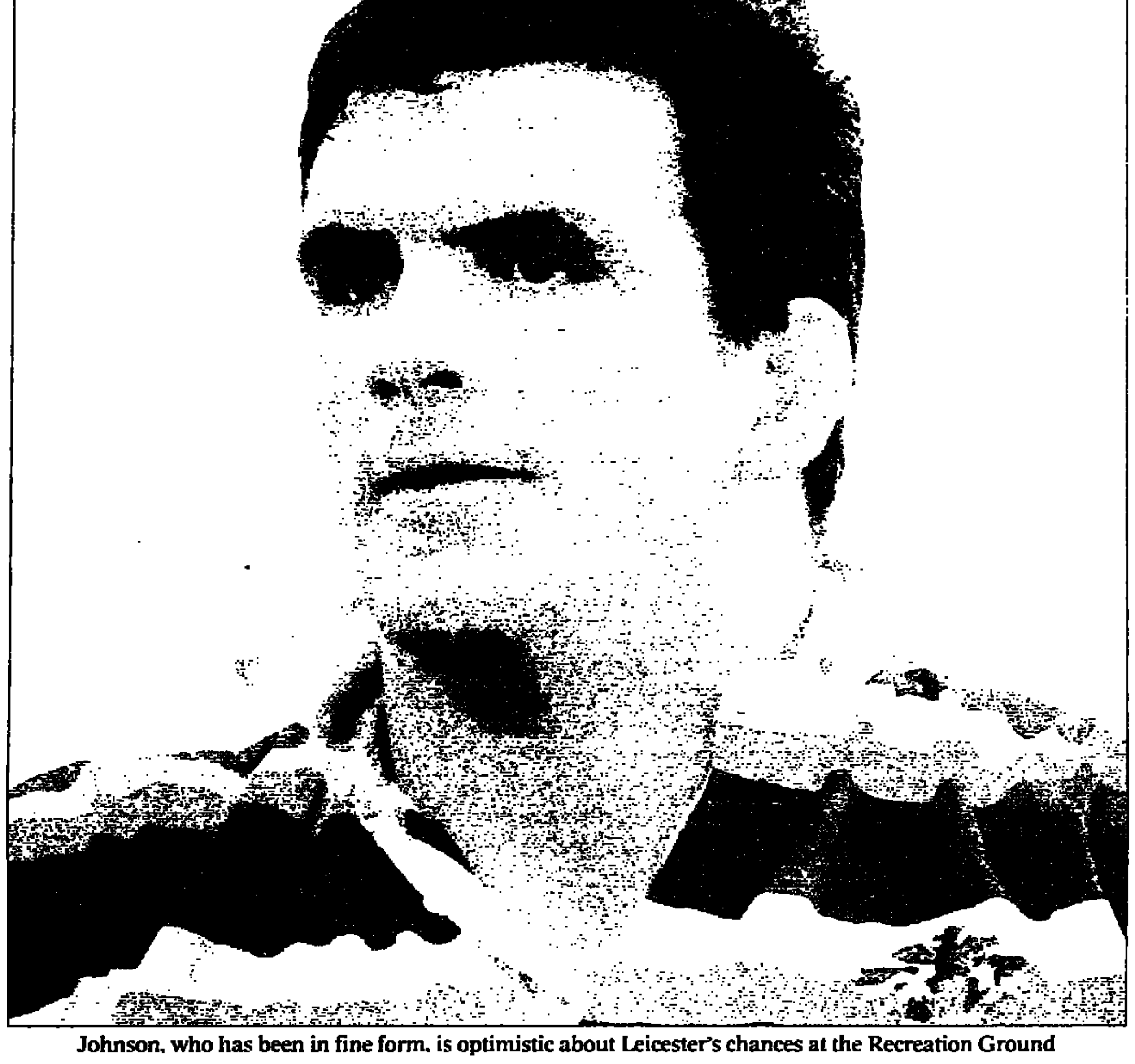
Johnson has been in magisterial form this season, but his presence may be just the spur to bring the best from Nigel Redman and the Bath team. This is the kind of challenge upon which Bath thrive; with Victor Ubogu back at tight-head prop and the inspirational Jeremy Guscott making his first home appearance for a year, this must be considered their strongest line-up, with the possible exception of the injured Simon Geoghegan, who has yet to play a league game.

Similarly, Leicester's absentees return, Dean Richards and Neil Back to the back row, and Rory Underwood to the left wing. "I do think it will be the only game this season between the two sides at full strength," Russ said.

Let us hope the occasion does not overcome the rugby.

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leicester	6	6	0	0	146	68	12
Bath	6	6	0	0	129	75	12
Bristol	6	4	0	2	127	97	8
Wasps	6	3	0	3	196	111	6
Orrell	6	3	0	3	76	104	6
Harlequins	6	3	0	3	116	161	6
Gloucester	6	2	0	4	105	121	4
Sale	6	2	0	4	139	158	4
W Hartlepool	6	1	0	5	93	155	2
Northampton	6	0	0	6	78	155	0


Johnson, who has been in fine form, is optimistic about Leicester's chances at the Recreation Ground

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Newbury

Going: Good to firm (chase course); good (hurdles)

2.10 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, BADASTAN (Peter Hobbs, 9-2), 2, Judges Fancy (C Llewellyn, 14-1), 3, Glaisdale (D Bridgwater, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Monaru, 9-2 Newton Point (4th), 11-2 Uluru (6th), 14 Court Circular (5th), 33 Deming Valley (pu). 8 ran. 2l, 8l, 30l, 7l, 2½l. P Hobbs at Minehead. Tote £4.20; £1.50, £2.60, £2.60. DF: £25.60. CSF: £52.21. Tricast: £627.63. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

2.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, KHATIR (R Dunwoody, 100-30 fav: Richard Evans's nap), 2, Greenback (Peter Hobbs, 9-2), 3, Nordance Prince (D O'Sullivan, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Romancer (f), 6 Dakota Girl (4th), 16 Kalasadi, Rockstoe, Secundus, 25 Sheltered Cove (5th), 33 Lord Wellington (pu), 50 Miss Gruntled (6th), No What I Mean, Twisp (pu), Zamboanga, 66 Aratel, Brooks Masquerade (pu), Symbol Of Success. 17 ran. 1¼l, 1l, 14l, 1½l, 15l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £3.60; £1.90, £1.90, £1.50. DF: £4.60. Trio: £49.50. CSF: £18.11.

3.10 (2m 4f ch) 1, KINGS FOUNTAIN (N Williamson, 10-1), 2, Gulburn's Nephew (C Maude, 11-4 fav); 3, Well Briefed (B Powell, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 4 Menebuck (5th), 11-2 Comedy Road (6th), 12 Ardcroney Chief (pu), 14 L'Uomo Piu (4th), Retail Runner (pu). 8 ran. 3½l, 1¼l, 2½l, 14l, dist. K Bailey at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £9.20; £2.80, £1.70, £1.20. DF: £10.00. CSF: £35.32. Tricast: £105.66.

3.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, DARK DEN (T Kent, 8-11 fav: Thunderer's nap), 2, Destiny Calls (C Llewellyn, 10-1), 3, Ikhtiraa (J Osborne, 40-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Moonsh (pu), 11-2 Blue Grotto (pu), 66 Kimberley Boy (4th). 6 ran. 15l, 14l, dist. Mrs J Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £1.70; £1.30, £1.80. DF: £3.80. CSF: £8.21.

4.10 (2m 1f ch) 1, SHAARID (J Osborne, 6-5 fav), 2, Henley Regatta (S Burrough, 25-1), 3, Merry Panto (G Bradley, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 11-4 Rose King (f), 7 Golden Isle (4th), 10 John Roger (5th). 6 ran. 2½l, 15l, 2½l, 15l. I Balding at Kingsclere. Tote: £2.10; £1.40, £2.90. DF: £17.40. CSF: £21.38.

4.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, ATOURS (P Holley, 100-30 fav), 2, Sun Surfer (C Llewellyn, 16-1), 3, Bo Knows Best (A P McCoy, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Square Silk (6th), 9-2 No Pain No Gain, 5 Arabian Bold (5th), Surrey Dancer (4th). 7 ran. 7l, 3½l, hd, 15l, 11l. D Elsworth at Whitcombe. Tote: £3.80; £2.20, £4.00. DF: £24.40. CSF: £43.05.

5.10 (2m 110yd flat) 1, SEXTON GREY (G McCourt, 6-1), 2, Bietschhorn Bard (M Dwyer, 6-1), 3, Huge Mistake (T Jenks, 11-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 6 Sandrift (5th), 7 Charmer's Well (4th), 10 Doctor Doctor (6th), 12 Eyre Point, Nebaal, No Near Miss, 14 Lord Dorcet, 16 Drummond Warrior, King's Cross, Our Main Man, 20 Alfie The Great, Treasure Again, 25 Dixon, 33 Got To Be Joking, Llama Lady, Miss Dixon, Miss Trapper, 50 Gone Away, Good Blow, Scorpion Boy, Tamandu, 100 Invaluable. 25 ran. 1l, 4l, nk, 3½l, 2l. P Hobbs at Minehead. Tote: £6.40; £2.10, £3.10, £3.00. DF: £29.20. CSF: £47.88.

Placepot: £49.40. Quadpot: £12.30.

Doncaster

Going: good to soft (good in places)

1.30 (7f) 1, Shetoog (R Price, 7-1); 2, Three Stops (6-5 fav), 3, Onestoneclones (5-1). 15 ran. 3l, hd. R Armstrong. Tote: £5.50; £1.50, £1.40, £1.50. DF: £4.30. CSF: £15.76.

2.00 (7f) 1, Night In A Million (A Whelan, 12-1), 2, Milos (13-1), 3, Last Quarry (14-1); 4, Four Of Spades (20-1). Beneficiary 8-1 jt-fav. 22 ran. Hd, 3½l. Mrs J Cecil. Tote: £12.80; £2.90, £3.00, £3.60, £4.90. DF: £56.50. Trio: £513.20. CSF: £143.83. Tricast: £1,888.43.

2.30 (7f) 1, Wolf Power (K Darley, 12-1); 2, Top Pet (14-1), 3, First Gold (15-2). King Rat 4-1 fav. 21 ran. NR: Surprise Breeze. 3l, sh hd. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £15.30; £3.40, £5.50, £2.60. DF: £254.00. CSF: £177.74.

3.00 (1m) 1, Moonshell (W Ryan, 9-4 fav); 2, Finus (6-1), 3, Hujeb (7-1). 15 ran. 3l, 4l. H Cecil. Tote: £3.10; £1.40, £2.40, £1.50. DF: £8.80. CSF: £16.68.

3.30 (1m 6f 132yd) 1, Eire Leath-Sceal (J Lowe, 20-1); 2, Seasonal Splendour (5-1 jt-fav), 3, Mystic Memory (14-1). First Bid 5-1 jt-fav. 14 ran. NR: Purkan. 1l, hd. M Brittain. Tote: £37.90; £10.30, £1.90, £6.30. DF: £157.50. Trio: £1,122.90. CSF: £109.92. Tricast: £1,341.23.

4.00 (2m 110yd) 1, Tree Of Life (Pat Eddery, 7-4 jt-fav), 2, Zuboon (7-4 jt-fav), 3, Daru (20-1). 7 ran. 5l, 3l. L Cumani. Tote: £2.60; £1.70, £1.50. DF: £2.00. CSF: £4.87.

4.30 (1m) 1, Ihtiraz (W Carson, 5-1 jt-fav), 2, Even Top Us (10-1), 3, In Waiting (5-1 jt-fav); 4, Simand (20-1). 17 ran. 3l, 1½l. J Dunlop. Tote: £3.10; £1.30, £1.50, £2.00, £4.20. DF: £15.20. Trio: £15.80. CSF: £56.05. Tricast: £254.64. £15.80.

5.00 (7f) 1, Grey Shot (R Cochrane, 10-1); 2, Ten Past Six (11-10 fav), 3, Afflah (5-1). 12 ran. NR: Doubleton, Solor Dancer. ¾l, 6l. I Balding. Tote: £17.20; £4.50, £1.20, £1.80. DF: £14.80. CSF: £21.71.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £224,753.71 carried forward to Doncaster today).
Placepot: 215.50. Quadpot: £52.20.

Fakenham

Going: good (good to firm in places)

2.20 (2m hdle) 1, Volcanic Dancer (E Husband, 16-1); 2, Northern Conqueror (10-1); 3, Salisong (11-1). Dark Silhouette 3-1 fav. 14 ran. NR: Barcham. 2l, 2½l. Mrs N Macauley. Tote: £44.10; £13.10, £4.00, £2.60. DF: £133.80. Trio: £322.40 (pool of £181.89 carried forward to Doncaster today). CSF: £156.04. Tricast: £1,880.38.

2.50 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Over The Stream (A Thornton, 13-8 fav), 2, Secret Summit (11-4). 4 ran. 30l. K Bailey. Tote: £2.40. DF: £3.30. CSF: £6.19. Only two finished.

3.20 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Gorleera (M Brennan, 3-1); 2, In Truth (8-1), 3, Dulzura (6-1). Favoured Victor 11-4 fav. 8 ran. 4l, 6l. O Brennan. Tote: £5.10; £1.40, £2.60, £2.40. DF: £12.70. CSF: £26.77.

3.50 (2m hdle) 1, Nagobelia (N Mann, 7-2), 2, Sylvan Sabre (7-1); 3, Tejano Gold (11-4 fav). 8 ran. 1½l, sh hd. J Pearce. Tote: £4.30; £1.60, £1.70, £2.00. DF: £19.60. CSF: £25.93. Tricast: £89.25.

4.20 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Ullswater (J Ryan, 7-1), 2, Call Me Early (8-1), 3, Mr Entertainer (6-1). Kemys Commander 5-2 fav. 10 ran. Hd, ¾l. M Ryan. Tote: £10.30; £2.20, £2.10, £2.20. DF: £30.00. Trio: £77.40. CSF: £63.50. Tricast: £338.41.

4.50 (2m) 1, Familiar Art (S Smith Eccles, 11-4); 2, Inzar (16-1); 3, Mister O'Grady (11-2). Moobakkr 6-5 fav. 8 ran. 5l, 3l. J Fanshawe. Tote: £4.60; £1.10, £5.30, £2.30. DF: £32.50. CSF: £40.10.

5.20 (2m) 1, Ajdar (M Perrett, 5-2), 2, Call Me Albi (6-4 fav), 3, Ryan Giggs (12-1). 8 ran. ¾l, 5l. P Kelleway. Tote: £3.00; £1.40, £1.60, £3.30. DF: £3.50. CSF: £7.45.

Placepot: £729.20. Quadpot: £78.90.

HUNTINGDON

THUNDERER

1.45 Anorak. 2.15 Prince Of Salerno. 2.45 Rarfy's Dream. 3.15 Eastshaw. 3.45 Alan Ball. 4.15 Certain Angle. 4.45 Sherwood Boy.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

1.45 HENKEL TEROSON NOVICES HURDLE
(Div I: £2,128: 2m 110yd) (13 runners)

1 -122 ANORAK 11 (F) G Moore 4-11-4 J Callaghan
2 3/2- EDIREPUS 71F Mrs M Reveley 6-10-12 P Niven
3 5-UF PINKLE STREET 28 G Hubbard 6-10-12 Richard Guest
4 0- GREY FINCH 168 O Sherwood 5-10-12 J McCarthy (3)
5 5- JURA 58F J Fanshawe 6-10-12 S Smith Eccles
6 -P0P SIDNEY SMITH 14 A Bailey 6-10-12 T Kent
7 530- DESERT CHALLENGER 175 J Jenkins 4-10-11 N Williamson
8 34-P INTENTION 17 I Campbell 4-10-11 R Campbell
9 P KEEP BREATHING 28 (B) K Clutterbuck 4-10-11 D Walsh (5)
10 5 MOHICAN BRAVE 24 J L Harris 4-10-11 D Gallagher
11 RED WHIRLWIND 21F B McMath 4-10-11 N Mann
12 VINTAGE RED 358F N Twiston-Davies 4-10-11 D Bridgwater
13 312- EXCLUSIVE EDITION 142 (G) Miss H Knight 4-10-6 M A Fitzgerald

2-1 Jura, 5-2 Anorak, 7-2 Edirepus, 10-1 Exclusive Edition, 12-1 Desert Challenger, Vintage Red, Intention, 20-1 others.

2.15 JAGUAR NOVICES CHASE
(£2,772: 3m) (7)

1 U FIDDLERS GLEN 7 Mrs L Taylor 6-11-0 P Ward (7)
2 22-0 MOBILE MESSENGER 18 (S) T George 6-11-0 T Jenks (3)
3 42-3 PRINCE OF SALERNO 17 N Gaselee 7-11-0 M A Fitzgerald
4 /P0- SIMWELL 178 G Hubbard 6-11-0 D Gallagher
5 P-PB SQUIRES TALE 17 (F) W Bethell 6-11-0 B Storey
6 -3U6 RIP THE CALICO 21 (F) K Wingrove 6-10-9 J Ryan
7 44-P SEACHEST 51 O Brennan 5-10-6 M Brennan

5-4 Prince Of Salerno, 5-2 Mobile Messenger, 5-1 Rip The Calico, 8-1 Simwell, 10-1 Squires Tale, 12-1 Seachest, 25-1 Fiddlers Glen.

2.45 TEROSON HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,478: 2m 110yd) (9)

1 -011 RARFY'S DREAM 10 (D,F,G) J Banks 6-11-10 S Keightley
2 1113 SAFETY 16 (B,D,F,G) J White 7-11-1 D Skyrme
3 2136 BIGWHEEL BILL 12 (V,F,G) J Jenkins 5-11-0 N Williamson
4 0-UR MRS MAYHEW 7 (CD,F,G,S) G Hubbard 6-10-5 Richard Guest
5 12-1 FORGETFUL 31 (D,F,G) D Burchell 5-10-4 A Procter (3)
6 400/ BARFORD LAD 21F J Fanshawe 7-10-2 S Smith Eccles
7 P5-P NOBLE INSIGHT 17 (D,F,G,S) T George 7-10-0 T Jenks (3)
8 35-0 FOREVER SHINEING 14 S Mellor 4-10-0 M Perrett
9 031- WEST MONKTON 320 (D,F) C Nash 8-10-0 S Drake (7)

7-4 Rarfy's Dream, 3-1 Forgetful, 9-2 Safety, 6-1 Bigwheel Bill, 7-1 Barford Lad, 10-1 Mrs Mayhew, 12-1 others.

3.15 PEUGEOT HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,997: 3m) (8)

1 20-4 EASTSHAW 16 (F,G,S) T Forster 12-12-0 B Powell
2 2-93 GLENSHANE LAD 17 (D,F,G,S) K Bailey 8-11-13 N Williamson
3 053- SCOLE 229 (B) G Hubbard 9-11-6 G Bazin (7)
4 -23R TOMPET 28 (D,G) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-1 D Bridgwater
5 -212 REAL PROGRESS 23 (CD,G,S) P Hobbs 6-10-8 G Tormey (7)
6 3411 LAPIAFFE 17 (D,F,G,S) A Harrison 10-10-4 B Storey
7 P-40 THEO'S FELLA 23 (D,F,G) G Balding 10-10-0 R Arnold (7)
8 3331 LADY BLAKENEY 10 (D,F,G) B Rothwell 8-10-0 J Supple (5)

2-1 Real Progress, 5-2 Lapiaffe, 6-1 Eastshaw, Lady Blakeney, 7-1 Glenshane Lad, 12-1 Tompet, 14-1 others.

3.45 ROVER HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,861: 2m 110yd) (7)

1 3311 STAY AWAKE 15 (D,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 8 11-10 P Niven
2 6121 ALAN BALL 14 (D,F,G,S) Miss S Wilton 8-11-7 N Williamson
3 21-4 MINE'S AN ACE 14 (D,BF,F,S) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 7-11-5 R Greene
4 -44P BOSTON ROVER 14 (D,F,G,S) O Brennan 9-11-1 M Brennan
5 F2-5 TERRIBLE GEL 11 (D,F,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-10-10 N Smith
6 2-54 RUPPLES 16 (F,G) M Chapman 7-10-0 W Worthington
7 0P-0 THAT'S SPECIAL 17 R Harris 5-10-0 S Keightley

Evens Stay Awake, 2-1 Alan Ball, 6-1 Mine's An Ace, 10-1 Boston Rover, 14-1 Terrible Gel, 16-1 Rupples, 66-1 That's Special.

4.15 FORD NOVICES HURDLE
(£1,953: 3m 2f) (10)

1 2-P3 ACE PLAYER 14 Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-10-12 R Greene
2 0-32 CERTAIN ANGLE 21 (G) P Hobbs 5-10-12 G Tormey (7)
3 1-42 CUCHULLAINS GOLD 17 (BF,F) J White 6-10-12 N Williamson
4 00- HARLEY STREET 168 Miss J Doyle 6-10-12 S Curran (5)
5 P04- PARLIAMENTARIAN 178 T Casey 5-10-12 M A Fitzgerald
6 P/0- TRADER TYE 325 G Hubbard 6-10-12 D Gallagher
7 3 MOUNTAIN REACH 30 C Mann 4-10-10 M Perrett
8 30-0 HIGH PENHOWE 17 Mrs V Aconley 6-10-7 W McFarland
9 F-P0 KELLY'S COURT 10 Mrs N Macauley 5-10-7 R Davis
10 5 CARA'S PRIDE 18 T George 4-10-5 T Jenks (3)

Evens Cuchullains Gold, 9-4 Certain Angle, 6-1 Mountain Reach, 7-1 others.

4.45 HENKEL TEROSON NOVICES HURDLE
(Div II: £2,110: 2m 110yd) (12)

1 6-21 SHERWOOD BOY 5 (F) K Bailey 5-11-5 N Williamson
2 CALL THE GUV'NOR 29F N Henderson 5-10-12 M A Fitzgerald
3 3-F DAWN FLIGHT 21 J Jenkins 5-10-12 B Powell
4 0/ RIVAL BID 33F M Jarvis 6-10-12 T Kent
5 00-P TWICE IN ONE NIGHT 17 S Cameron 5-10-12 P Midgley (3)
6 3-U BAG OF TRICKS 28 S Dow 4-10-11 A Dicken
7 CALL ME BLUE 35F T Naughton 4-10-11 R Davis
8 000- CHILTERN HUNDREDS 145 Mrs J Mayes 4-10-11 J Lodder
9 0P- CIRCUS COLOURS 164F Mrs S Smith 4-10-11 Richard Guest
10 05- QUEENS CONTRACTOR 101F S Mellor 4-10-11 M Perrett
11 0-06 SIDE BAR 36 (B) M Ryan 4-10-11 J Ryan
12 0- TAKE THE LAST 182 J Glover 4-10-11 R Garritty

7-4 Sherwood Boy, 7-2 Call The Guv'nor, 6-1 Dawn Flight, 8-1 Side Bar, 12-1 Take The Last, 14-1 Bag Of Tricks, Queens Contractor, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: K Bailey, 12 winners from 28 runners, 42.9%; G Hubbard, 3 from 10, 30.0%; Mrs M Reveley, 7 from 26, 26.9%; T Forster, 9 from 48, 18.8%; N Henderson, 6 from 32, 18.8%; J White, 3 from 17, 17.6%.

JOCKEYS: A Dicken, 4 winners from 12 rides, 33.3%; J Ryan, 8 from 37, 21.6%; N Williamson, 7 from 35, 20.0%; P Niven, 5 from 25, 20.0%; S Smith Eccles, 8 from 50, 16.0%; Richard Guest, 5 from 34, 14.7%.

Breeders' Cup to be shown live on Sky

SKY Television yesterday confirmed that it will broadcast this year's Breeders' Cup meeting live from Churchill Downs, Kentucky, on November 5. The 90-minute programme will start at 9pm with the Breeders' Cup Turf and Classic both shown live. Recordings of the other five main races will also be shown. Roger Moody, deputy head of Sky Sports, said: "It's a fantastic deal, underlining our increasing commitment to horse racing."

WORCESTER

THUNDERER

2.05 Glemot. 2.35 C D Shareplan. 3.05 Bay Mischief. 3.40 Lie Detector. 4.25 Castle Diamond. 5.00 Karar. 5.30 The Caumrue.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS

2.05 THREE COUNTIES CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,478: 2m) (7 runners)

1 42-1 GLEMOT 7 (D,F,G,S) K Bailey 6-12-0 A Thornton
2 433- DR ROCKET 173 (D,F,G,S) R Dickin 9-11-6 D Meredith
3 U3-1 SOCIETY GUEST 21 (F,G,S) A Turnell 8-10-13 D Ford
4 4-25 STARLAP 15 (CD,F,G,S) R Buckler 10-10-12 R Farrant
5 F-21 VAZON BAY 17 (B,D,F,G) Mrs J Pitman 10-10-6 J James (3)
6 -604 SILLIAN 14 (F,G,S) Mrs A Hewitt 12-10-0 S Wynne
7 UP-0 BILLIES OWN 17 (G) S Mellor 7-10-0 Chris Webb (3)

9-4 Vazon Bay, 5-1 Glemot, 7-2 Society Guest, 7-1 Starlap, Dr Rocket, 8-1 others.

2.35 RUSHWICK SELLING HURDLE
(£2,105: 2m) (15)

1 5PPU C D SHAREPLAN 18 (V,F) M Channon 4-11-5 A Thornton
2 0R0- PEACE FORMULA 145 M Tate 5-10-13 W Marston
3 0P0- ROLY WALLACE 16F (V) A Forbes 5-10-13 T Eley (3)
4 FP- SHARP PRINCE 141 J Peacock 5-10-13 R Bellamy
5 2-22 WELL APPOINTED 17 T Caldwell 5-10-13 Pat Caldwell
6 ELEGANT HUSSAR 404F R Rowe 4-10-12 D O'Sullivan
7 U0-4 IJAB 9 J Parkes 4-10-12 A Dobbin
8 6 JEWEL THIEF 16 (V) G Balding 4-10-12 B Clifford
9 LOFTY DEED 25F W Musson 4-10-12 G Bradley
10 353- MUHTASHIM 18F J Fitch-Heyes 4-10-12 R Dunwoody
11 4-62 SOLO CHARTER 17 W Clay 4-10-12 Diane Clay
12 263/ WINTER LIGHTNING 707 Mrs H Parrott 5-10-8 P McDermott
13 3P-4 BLUE RADIANCE 54 N Littmoden 4-10-7 J R Kavanagh
14 0-P0 SHALHOLME 32F T Price 4-10-7 G Upton
15 -555 STRIKE-A-POSE 26 B Llewellyn 4-10-7 Mr J L Llewellyn (5)

7-2 Muhtashim, 5-1 Well Appointed, 6-1 Solo Charter, Ijab, 7-1 Jewel Thief, 10-1 Strike-A-Pose, 16-1 others.

3.05 FRED RIMELL MEMORIAL NOVICES CHASE
(£4,068: 2m 4f 110yd) (18)

1 .0-1 GO UNIVERSAL 21 (S) M Bradstock 6-11-4 G Bradley
2 2U1- ACT OF PARLIAMENT 183 (F,G) K Bailey 6-10-12 S McNeill
3 313- BRAVE HIGHLANDER 189 (S) J Gifford 6-10-12 P Hide (3)
4 30-0 CHEMIN LE ROI 14 (G) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-12 W Marston
5 655- DESERT RUN 201 P Nicholls 6-10-12 R Dunwoody
6 ELY ISLAND G Balding 7-10-12 B Clifford
7 211- FOREST FEATHER 182 (S) C Weedon 6-10-12 Peter Hobbs
8 1-22 HOLY JOE 15 (F,S) D Burchell 12-10-12 D J Burchell
9 060- MOZEMO 198 (G) A Bailey 7-10-12 D Byrne
10 006- NIGHT FANCY 148 Mrs A Woodrow 6-10-12 A Thornton
11 532- ROAD TO FAME 317 D Gandolfo 7-10-12 M Dwyer
12 323- SPARTAN RANGER 191 (G) Miss M Milligan 9-10-12 Mr C Bonner (7)
13 00- SPARTAN SUN 724 R Rowe 7-10-12 C Burnett-Wells
14 12P- BAY MISCHIEF 220 (F,S) N Twiston-Davies 5-10-11 C Llewellyn
15 006- FOUR HEARTS 226 T Forster 5-10-11 J Osborne
16 P0-0 MISTY GREY 9 G Fierro 5-10-11 R Farrant
17 0/4- SPORTS VIEW 345 R Hodges 5-10-11 A Tory
18 20-3 GLENFINN PRINCESS 14 (S) Mrs M Jones 6-10-7 G McCourt

7-2 Bay Mischief, 4-1 Act Of Parliament, 6-1 Chemin Le Roi, 10-1 Go Universal, Ely Island, Forest Feather, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Elsworth, 3 winners from 7 runners, 42.9%; O Sherwood, 22 from 65, 33.8%; P Nicholls, 9 from 28, 32.1%; M Pipe, 38 from 130, 29.2%; P Hobbs, 28 from 113, 24.8%.

JOCKEYS: J Osborne, 29 winners from 114 rides, 25.4%; Peter Hobbs, 17 from 74, 23.0%; G Bradley, 8 from 40, 20.0%; A Tory, 5 from 33, 15.2%; R Dunwoody, 32 from 213, 15.0%.

3.40 INKBERROW NOVICES HURDLE
(Div I: £2,073: 2m 5f 110yd) (15)

1 11-1 ERRANT KNIGHT 18 (F,G,S) M Pipe 10-11-4 R Dunwoody
2 35-1 LIE DETECTOR 21 (G) O Sherwood 6-11-4 J Osborne
3 4U-P BALLYHAMAGE 7 J Evans 6-10-11 Mr R Johnson (7)
4 000- CHUKATEN 168 J Mackie 5-10-11 T Eley (3)
5 DON DU CADRAN T Forster 5-10-11 R Farrant
6 PP/0 FAST RUN 14 (F) J Mullins 6-10-11 S Righton (7)
7 344- FLAPJACK LAD 206 N Twiston-Davies 5-10-11 C Llewellyn
8 64-B MOORE BONES 14 D Gandolfo 6-10-11 M Dwyer
9 5 POINCIANA 10 Miss C Johnsey 5-10-11 S Earle
10 00- SAN GIORGIO 213 C Smith 5-10-11 Mr P Hanly (7)
11 3/5- TWO JOHN'S 341 P Nicholls 5-10-11 C Maude
12 0CP/ WODEHOUSE 567 J Bosley 9-10-11 M Bosley
13 04-6 IMAD 21 J White 4-10-10 J Railton
14 00 TUDOR MISTRESS 7 T Caldwell 5-10-6 Pat Caldwell
15 SUNNINGHILL LADY J Webber 4-10-6 R Bellamy

6-4 Lie Detector, 2-1 Errant Knight, 8-1 Flapjack Lad, 12-1 Moore Bones, Imad, Two John's, 16-1 Don Du Cadran, 20-1 others.

4.25 ASTON VILLA HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,111: 2m 4f 110yd) (7)

1 2-0R GHOFAR 18 (B,CD,BF,F,G,S) D Elsworth 11-11-12 P Holley
2 125- JUMBEAU 199 (D,G,S) J Gifford 9-10-13 P Hide (3)
3 54-2 WIDE BOY 18 (CD,F,G,S) P Hobbs 12-10-13 G McCourt
4 F3P- ANDERMATT 179 (D,S) J Mackie 7-10-12 J Osborne
5 51-3 CASTLE DIAMOND 85 (CD,BF,F,G,S) H Kavanagh 7-10-12 R Dunwoody
6 53-1 STAUNCH RIVAL 14 (CD,G,S) G Thorner 7-10-0 C Llewellyn
7 021/ SEVEN OF DIAMONDS 553P (F,G,S) R Alner 9-10-0 S Earle

5-2 Wide Boy, 7-2 Jumbeau, 4-1 Staunch Rival, 5-1 Castle Diamond, 7-1 Ghofar, Andermatt, 14-1 Seven Of Diamonds.

5.00 INKBERROW NOVICES HURDLE
(Div II: £2,073: 2m 5f 110yd) (14)

1 0-12 KARAR 25 (CD,G) R Rowe 4-11-3 E Murphy
2 0- FENCING MASTER 199 Mrs I McKie 5-10-11 L Harvey
3 INVER CLOUD C Weedon 5-10-11 Peter Hobbs
4 00-0 MACKABEE 28 Mrs J Pitman 5-10-11 W Marston
5 U2P- MEGAMUNCH 175 R Juckes 6-10-11 T Wall
6 20-3 PERCY THROWER 25 N Twiston-Davies 7-10-11 C Llewellyn
7 340- ROSS GRAHAM 179 Mrs B Waring 6-10-11 P Holley
8 00-2 FINNIGAN FREE 18 C Nash 4-10-10 J R Kavanagh
9 PP- IMPERIAL TOKAY 248 A Forbes 4-10-10 Mr B Leavy
10 KLONDIKE 106F Mrs P Sly 4-10-10 R Marley
11 6-04 ROOTSMAN 14 Mrs M Jones 4-10-10 G McCourt
12 405- STRICTLY PERSONAL 200 K Burke 4-10-10 —
13 083- CAIPIRINHA 183 S Christian 6-10-6 G Upton
14 00F- TEA-LADY 164 P Evans 6-10-6 G Bradley

2-1 Karar, 6-1 Strictly Personal, 7-1 Caipirinha, 8-1 Mackabee, 10-1 Ross Graham, Percy Thrower, 12-1 Finnigan Free, 16-1 others.

5.30 CITY HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,338: 2m) (14)

1 2/2- HOSTILE ACT 62F K Morgan 9-11-12 R Dunwoody
2 P1-1 MUSICAL TREND 14 (F,S) O Sherwood 6-11-12 J Osborne
3 52-5 THE CAUMRUE 25 (CD,G) G Balding 6-11-6 J Frost
4 325- NORTHERN NATION 290 (D,G) W Clay 6-11-6 Diane Clay
5 -U13 AMBASSADOR ROYALE 7 (D,F,G) Miss A Budgett 6-11-6 R Supple
6 5-05 PORT IN A STORM 17 (D,S) N Tinkler 6-11-4 M Dwyer
7 26-3 THUHOOL 12 (G,S) R Rowe 6-11-5 D Carson (7)
8 1U2- CHAPEL HILL 269 (G) D Burchell 6-11-1 D J Burchell
9 33P/ MAJOR BUSH 507 (S) Miss C Johnsey 7-10-9 L Harvey
10 080- PHROSE 246 C Weedon 4-10-5 Peter Hobbs
11 124- COMANECI 592 (D,G) K Bridgwater 6-10-5 W Humphreys
12 06-0 WAMDHA 17 (G,S) K Morgan 4-10-3 A S Smith
13 00-0 MONTIFIORE AVENUE 9 (D,G) G Fierro 8-10-1 S Lycett (7)
14 565- JUMPING JUDGE 231 N Thomson 7-10-0 J R Kavanagh

9-4 Musical Trend, 6-1 Ambassador Royale, 8-1 Hostile Act, Thuhool, The Caumrue, 10-1 Chapel Hill, 12-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: There are no horses blinkered for the first time today.

هكذا صدر الأصل

Czechs lining up to have final word at Brighton

By Stuart Jones, Tennis Correspondent

A COUPLE of players from the Czech Republic are closing in on the Brighton women's tennis title. From separate halves of the draw, Helena Sukova and Jana Novotna moved into the last four yesterday, although they travelled to the south coast in different frames of mind.

Sukova, who stands an imposing 6ft 2in tall, was belittled last week by Martina Hingis, an elfin figure half her age. Sukova dismissed the ignominious defeat in Filderstadt as "a bad day" and several good days have since followed for the 29-year-old veteran in the indoor arena.

Although she has been a professional for more than a decade, she has competed against the experienced Nathalie Tauziat only four times. Their matches have always been staged in October on carpet and the results have been strikingly similar. Each time Sukova has prevailed in straight sets.

Novotna: highest ranking

Tauziat had eliminated Anke Huber, the fourth seed and last year's runner-up, on Thursday night but she could not avoid a fate that had been inflicted on her in 1987, 1990 and a fortnight ago. She went out 6-4, 7-5, in 71 minutes.

Sukova, the runner-up to Steffi Graf at Brighton four years ago, admitted she "has seen everything" but not achieved as much as she wanted. She has not reached a final of any event this year, for example, but now only Larisa Neiland stands in her way.

Novotna, the No 2 seed and the highest left in the field, is heading towards an achievement which is unprecedented in her experience. The champion at Leipzig three weeks ago, she could for the first time in her career remain undefeated in successive tournaments.

She has climbed to her highest status in the world rankings, fourth, and believes that her list of honours, which does not yet include a grand slam title, would have been longer but for the presence of one woman. Graf has invariably been an immovable barrier.

"Every time I'm playing well and I reach a semi-final," she said, "I meet Steffi. She is harder to beat than anyone else because she is unique. She is the fittest, the fastest and she hits the hardest. You cannot prepare properly for a match against her."

Her claim is supported by the statistics. Of her 24 contests against Graf (one of which was in the final at Brighton two years ago), Novotna has won only three. None of those victories, poignantly, has prompted her to go on and win the event.

"You can't play your own game against Steffi," she explained. "You can against the others." Her record against the two other players ranked higher than her are impressive. She has won eight of the dozen against Arantxa Sánchez Vicario and two of three against Conchita Martinez.

With the imminent retirement of Martina Navratilova, Novotna stands as the prime serve-and-volley specialist in the women's game. She pointed out that she does not employ the tactic exclusively but only when it promises to be productive, as against Katerina Maleeva.

The middle of three sisters, Maleeva had knocked out Sabine Hack, the No 5 seed, in the opening round. Maria Alejandra Vento, a qualifier from Venezuela, took her to three protracted sets on Thursday and, as Novotna noted, Maleeva was adversely affected by the endurance test.

Broken midway through the first set and twice at the start of the second, she submitted after an hour and a half, 6-4, 6-2. In the other semi-final today, Novotna will take on either Julie Halard, the only other remaining seed, or Meike Babel, 19, from Germany.

THE TIMES

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GRAHAM MORRIS

Crawley found it hot work in the nets in Perth yesterday, where Gooch and Gatting gave a lead by turning up for practice well before the rest of the England players

Crawley intends to silence doubters

Michael Henderson discovers the youngest batsman in England's touring party in determined mood

On the evidence of his brief Test life, John Crawley hopped on the England plane for Perth last week just before they shut the doors. Though he says: "I would have been disappointed not to come to Australia," he knows better than anyone that expectation and fulfillment stand on separate banks of a wide, brimming river.

He also feels — a tide in the affairs of the men taken at the flood, and all that — that the current is turning in his favour. He has always been an impressive, well-rounded young man. Now it is time to make some impressive well-rounded scores.

"I'm feeling better than for years," he says, meaning in body no less than mind. "Towards the end of last season it was made clear that I had to get in trim. Nobody told me directly but it was obvious from the way people spoke to me that I had to do something.

"I have never been one for real fitness work, and I have always been on the heavy side, so I resolved that things had to improve." At 14st 8lb, a weight at which he is comfortable, Crawley, 23, is "more determined that I have ever been".

First, there is the need to win the respect of his peers. Against the South Africans he was the cheeky new boy, a member of the team but not really part of it. He knows he played poorly and that failure to offer a convincing account of himself and what he considers to be a hasty appraisal of his talents by others, is what is behind his determination to do well on this tour.

"It was an embarrassment playing for England last season. I let myself down badly, batting half-decently once in five innings. I have to prove myself worthy of a place and then secure it for the series against West Indies next summer. In the past a lot has been served to me on a silver spoon. It is time to fulfil the promise by making some big scores."

Focused, a word he applies to the mood of the team, certainly applies to Crawley. "Although my performances against South Africa did not warrant a place, Michael Atherton has obviously invested a lot of confidence in me. So have Ray Illingworth and Keith Fletcher.

"I realise that people are entitled to their opinions. It's just a pity some of them who wrote about me did not see one of my three scores of 250 and more."

As to the cause of his embarrassment, he is quite straight. "Loss of form. I regard my technique as pretty sound but when your form goes it becomes not only a physical problem but a mental one. It is not just moving your feet but thinking about moving them and balls you know you can hit for four suddenly get you out.

"It's a matter of playing through it. But just when I needed match practice after my first Test at Lord's, Lancashire didn't have a game. After the second Test I fell ill during the Roses match at Headingley, which robbed me of a second innings." The man who fished at Allan Donald in that momentous final Test at the Oval, to be caught behind, was nothing but a walking shadow, a poor player.

Dropped from the team for the one-day internationals, Crawley immediately made 250 against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge. The across-the-line whip reverted to being a straight stroke, with a turn of the wrists that carried the ball to the boundary from mid-on's left hand to square leg's right. He had recovered his form.

So: Australia awaits. He made a big impression last year when his 109, going in first, enabled Lancashire beat the Australian touring team, the only county to do so. Perth, where England are camped, is not unfamiliar for he stayed on here for two months as an 18-year-old, playing for the Midland-Guildford club, after touring with Young England in 1990.

In the next week the England players will study and discuss video evidence of the batsmen and bowlers they will soon be facing. Prominent among them is Shane Warne, purveyor of leg breaks and flippers, though not as yet of terrifying googlies.

It is unlikely that anyone will be deputed to clatter Warne but if Crawley has indeed secured his place ahead of Mike Gatting then, with his immense strength, he could yet prove an attacking accomplice to Graham Gooch and Alec Stewart. It will not be for lack of determination and it is never wise to underestimate the purpose of this quietly determined man.

Higgins leads after day of mixed emotions

By Phil Yates

JOHN Higgins experienced mixed emotions after establishing a 5-3 lead over Joe Swail, the world No 12, in their best-of-17-frame snooker semi-final in the Skoda Grand Prix at the Assembly Rooms, Derby, yesterday.

Higgins, 19, failed to achieve the consistency he displayed in beating Ronnie O'Sullivan 5-0 in the previous round but, after losing the opening two frames, he had every right to be satisfied with his interval advantage.

Higgins, however, was still kicking himself after wasting a golden opportunity to compile only the sixth televised 147 break in history, worth a total of £22,400 in this tournament. The Scot, who is ranked No 51 in the world, potted the initial 12 reds with 12 blacks in the seventh frame. He was well set for a maximum when he cannoned the cue-ball into a group of three awkward reds and split them perfectly. Undoubtedly affected by the significance of the position, though, he then missed a simple red.

Swail made the better start. A clearance on the colours enabled him to steal the opening frame, a 55 break put him 2-0 ahead and the former Irish champion was also presented with a clear-cut opportunity early in the third. An explosive "kick" on a simple black caused him to leave the table prematurely, however, and Higgins won the frame with a 73 break. He then constructed breaks of 107, 52 and 96 in accounting for four of the following five frames.

Higgins, the new favourite to collect the £60,000 first prize, was left requiring four of the remaining nine frames in last night's session to add the finishing touch to his debut in a major final.

It takes something special for Stephen Hendry's elimination from an event to be overshadowed, but Andy Hicks did precisely that by beating Steve Davis 5-3 in the quarter-finals on Thursday night. Davis has lost to lower-ranked players on many occasions but he has never fallen victim to such ferocious break-building.

Hicks, the world No 33, became only the fourth player to compile century breaks in three successive frames on television when he moved 4-0 ahead from 1-0 with runs of 100, 115 and 109. Even Davis felt it was appropriate to join the applause.

In the second semi-final today, Hicks meets Dave Harold, of Stoke, who beat Hendry 5-2. Hicks has already recorded six century breaks in the tournament and will need to maintain a similarly high standard if he is to figure in the final of a world-ranking competition for the first time.

All four semi-finalists are beneficiaries of a far-sighted decision by the game's governing body, the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA), to throw open the game in 1991.

Although critics claimed that awarding professional status to anyone willing to pay a £500 fee would dilute quality, the reverse has been the case. Swail, Higgins, Hicks and Harold are among an expanding group of accomplished players who are ensuring that the circuit has never possessed more strength in depth.

SCORE: Semi-final: J Higgins (Scot) leads J Swail (N Ire) 5-3. Frame scores (Higgins first): 80-83, 11-89, 100-20, 108-0, 38-67, 82-34, 96-0, 58-20.

Sri Lanka bowlers tamed by Houghton

DAVID Houghton, 116 not out overnight, carried on to reach a career-best 266 as Zimbabwe took their score to 427 for eight yesterday on the second day of the second Test match against Sri Lanka in Bulawayo.

Houghton's marathon innings — the highest by a Zimbabwean batsman in Test cricket — lasted for 11¼ hours. He faced 541 balls and struck 35 fours and three sixes before, his concentration affected by tiredness, he fell three overs before the close, trapped leg-before by Vaas.

Although Houghton, 37, never entirely dominated the attack, he paced his innings intelligently and did not give a chance until he had reached 253. He was then dropped by Vaas after checking a forward push and then, off the next delivery, was put down by the substitute fielder, Jayasuriya.

Houghton's previous highest score was 202 against the touring England A team five years ago. He finished only 13 short of the highest first-class score by a batsman representing Zimbabwe.

Ray Gripper made 279 for what was then Rhodesia against Orange Free State in 1967-68.

Houghton added 100 for the sixth-wicket with Wayne James, who was caught behind for 33, and 84 for the eighth with John Rennie before his dismissal in the 180th over of the innings.

ZIMBABWE: First innings

G W Flower c Dasanayake b Wickremasinghe	1
M H Dekker c Mahanama b Dharmasena	0
A D R Campbell st Dasanayake b Muralitharan	18
D L Houghton lbw b Vaas	266
*A Flower c Muralitharan b Dharmasena	60
G J Whittal c Tillekaratne b Wickremasinghe	12
†W R James c Dasanayake b Dharmasena	33
H H Streak c Dharmasena b Vaas	0
J A Rennie not out	15
S G Peall not out	5
Extras (b 5, lb 8, w 1, nb 13)	27
Total (8 wkts)	427

M P Jarvis to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-5, 3-65, 4-165, 5-228, 6-328, 7-335, 8-419.

BOWLING: Wickremasinghe 37-7-108-2; Vaas 42-14-76-3; Dharmasena 45-11-109-2; Muralitharan 54-21-102-1; de Silva 1-0-4-0; Gurusinha 4-0-15-0.

SRI LANKA: R S Mahanama, A P Gurusinha, S Ranatunga, P A de Silva, *A Ranatunga, H P Tillekaratne, †P B Dasanayake, M Muralitharan, K Dharmasena, G P Wickremasinghe, U C J Vaas.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Minnesota 13 Green Bay 10 (OT).

BADMINTON

MANSFIELD: International match: England 4 China 1. Men's singles: D Hall bt Yang Zhuo 15-6, 15-1. Women's singles: J Mann lost to Dai Yun 1-11, 1-11. Women's doubles: J Wright and J Bradbury bt Xu Li and Zeng Yaqiong 15-9, 15-11. Mixed doubles: S Archer and J Bradbury bt Liu Yong and Li Qi 12-15, 15-9, 15-4. Men's doubles: Archer and J Quinn bt Yu Jian Hao and Yang Ming 15-11, 8-15, 11-3.

BASKETBALL

7-UP TROPHY: Leopards 71 (Miller 20, Youngblood 19) London Towers 65 (Scott 17, Lewis 17).

CRICKET

ADELAIDE: Sheffield Shield (Third day of four). Tasmania 389 (M DiVenuto 82, M Atkinson 76 not; M Minagall 7-152) and 128-3 (D Hills 56 not out) South Australia 390-8 dec (T Nielsen 74 not out, D Lehmann 70)

FOOTBALL

UMBRO FA TROPHY THIRD-QUALIFYING ROUND DRAW: Northallerton v Blyth Spartans; Warrington v Colwyn Bay; Knowsley v Ashton United, Fleetwood v Spennymoor; Curzon Ashton v Gresley; Barrow v Winsford; Frickley v Whitby; Guisborough v West Auckland, Hyde v Boston United; Dunston FB v Ilkeston, Bamber Bridge v Grantham, Droylsden v Leek; Gretna v Seaham, Rushden and Diamonds v Crawley; Cheltenham v Worthing, Aldershot Town v Rothwell, Sudbury v Carshalton; Gloucester v Chelmsford; Grays v Chertsey; Hednesford v Trowbridge; Bedworth United v Boreham Wood; Worcester v Molesey, Moor Green v Marlow; Bashley v Yeading; St Albans v Purfleet, Baldock v Walton and Hersham, Halesowen Town v Hitchin; Aylesbury v Dorchester; Weston-super-Mare v Chesham; Kingstonian v Harrow Borough. VS Rugby v Bognor Regis. Atherstone United v Newbury.

Ties to be played Nov 26

Late Thursday results

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Second round, first leg: Brondby 1, Arsenal 2. Chelsea 0 FK Austria 0; Besiktas (Turkey) 2 Auxerre (France) 2, Feyenoord (Holl) 1 Werder Bremen (Ger) 0: Sampdoria (Italy) 3 Grasshopper Zurich (Switz) 0; FC Brugge (Belgium 1 Panathinaikos (Greece) 0. Tatran Presov (Slovakia) 0 Real Zaragoza (Spain) 4: FC Porto 6 Ferencvaros (Hung) 0. UEFA CUP: Second round: First leg: AIK Stockholm (Sweden) 0 Parma (Italy) 1.

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Stoke City 3 Aston Villa 3. Second division: Middlesbrough 0 Blackpool 0

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Dundalk 2 Athlone Town 1

GOLF

MARIENBAD: Czech Republic Open: Second round (GB and Ire unless stated): 113: F Nobilo (NZ) 54, 59. 114: B Lane 59, 55. 115: S Grappasonni (It) 58, 57, D Clarke 59, 56 116: S Richardson 57, 59, J Rivero (Sp) 59, 57 117: P Mayo 56, 61; R Claydon 56, 61, B Langer (Ger) 58, 59; P Eales 60, 57: E O'Connell 58, 59 118: A Sorensen (Den) 59, 59: S Ames (Trin) 60, 58. A Binaghi (It) 60, 55. R Drummond 62, 56, P Fulke (Swe) 61, 57, F Lindgren (Swe) 60, 58, A Murray 60, 58: D Curry 58, 60 119: P Lawrie 58, 61 J-M Cerriles (Sp) 58, 61 120: G Orr 59, 61, D W Basson (SA) 61, 59, E Darcy 60, 60 J Van de Velde (Fr) 59, 61, C Mason 61, 59. 121: W Riley (Aus) 61, 60; G Levenson (SA) 60, 61, S Tinning (Den) 59, 62; C Grenier (Can) 58, 63 P Baker 63, 58; S Bottomley 60, 61, A Hunter 58, 63: F Larsson (Swe) 60, 61. 122: P Walton 61, 61. 123: T Gogele (Ger) 65, 58, A Forsbrand (Swe) 65, 58; M Piñero (Sp) 61, 62. 124: R Karlsson (Swe) 59, 65: S McAllister 63, 61. 125. J-M Cañizares (Sp) 61, 63: C Cassells 64, 61: D Cooper 64, 61. 126: P Haugsrud (Nor) 63, 63, M Harwood (Aus) 60, 66: F Regard (Fr) 66, 60 129: D Smyth 64, 65, K Skopowy (Cz) 66, 63, R Goosen (SA) 65, 64: V Singh (Fiji) 64, 65, R Berhorst (Ger) 60, 69: J Juhanak (Cz) 64, 65. 130: *S Kopecko (Cz) 69, 61.

* Denotes amateur.

LAS VEGAS: Las Vegas International: Second round (US unless stated). 129: S Hoch 66, 63. 131: D Forsman 67, 64, J Furyk 67, 64: D Hart 65, 66 132: M Hansen 66, 66. 133: R Black 69, 64. B Lietzke 66, 67; S Murphy 64, 69: G Boros 70, 63, H Twitty 66, 67. 134: W Andrade 66, 68, M Standly 66, 68, K Triplett 69, 65, B Kamm 64, 70 135: N Lancaster 66, 69, B Glasson 67, 68; M Bradley 67, 68; C Dennis 68, 67; J D Blake 66, 69; L Janzen 70, 65: B Claar 66, 69; C Byrum 68, 67; D Rummells 67, 68 Other scores: 138: G Norman (Aus) 67, 69. 143: D Feherty (GB) 71, 72.

REAL TENNIS

BORDEAUX: French Open: Quarter-finals (British unless stated): C Bray bt M Devine, 6-1, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4; R Fahey (Aus) bt P Tabley (Aus), 5-6, 6-5, 6-2, 6-2: W Davies (Aus) bt J Howell, 6-5, 6-0, 4-6, 6-5.

TENNIS

SHEFFIELD: LTA autumn satellite: Men: semi-final: P Hand (Eng) bt P Parta (Cz) 4-6, 7-6, 6-3. R Wassen (Holl) bt G Basti (Switz) 2-6, 6-2, 6-2.

PEKING: Salem tournament: Quarter-finals: M Chang (US) bt A Mronz (Ger) 6-2, 6-3; B Steven (NZ) bt A Olhovskiy (Russ) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, A Jarryd (Swe) bt A Chang (Can) 5-7, 6-2, 6-3; D Adams (SA) bt T Nydahl (Swe) 6-3, 1-6, 6-4.

WIMBLEDON: Tate and Lyle Ladies' championships: First round: K Cross (Devon) bt Z Mellis (Essex) 7-6, 7-5: A Simpkin (Leicestershire) bt A Tordoff (Kent) 6-1, 6-0. C Hunt (Dorset) bt C Herbert (Hertfordshire) 6-4, 6-2; J Dawson (Sussex) bt T Corson (Derbyshire) 6-4, 6-3; C Taylor (Oxford) bt J McMahon (Sussex) 6-4, 6-2; S Bentley (Surrey) bt J Osman (Sussex) 6-1, 6-1. K Warne-Holland (Cheshire) w/o E Bond (Gloucestershire).

LYONS: Men's tournament: Second round: A Chesnokov (Russ) bt M Washington (US 6-4, 7-6: A Medvedev (Ukr) bt H Dreekmann (Ger) 6-3, 6-2: J Courier (US) bt A Boetsch (Fr) 6-3, 7-6, W Ferreira (SA) bt L Rehmann (Swe) 7-6, 7-6: M Rosset (Switz) bt D Vacek (Cz) 3-6, 6-2, 7-5, P Rafter (Aus)) bt J Hlasek (Switz) 6-3, 6-4, A Chesnokov (Russ) bt M Washington (US) 6-4, 7-6: A Medvedev (Ukr) bt H Dreekmann (Ger) 6-3, 6-2: J Courier (US) bt A Boetsch (Fr) 6-3, 7-6 Quarter-finals: Rosset bt Ferreira 7-6, 7-6, Chesnokov bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 5-7, 7-6, 6-1.

VIENNA: Men's tournament: Second round: M Stich (Ger) bt K Braasch (Ger) 6-3, 6-4, J Siemerink (Holl) bt M-K Goellner (Ger) 6-3, 7-5; A Agassi (US) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 6-0, 6-0; J Siemerink (Holl) bt M Goellner (Ger) 6-3, 7-5; G Ivanisevic (Croatia) bt G Rusedski (Can) 7-6, 7-6; M Stich (Ger) bt K Braasch (Ger) 6-3, 6-4; A Agassi (US) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 6-0, 6-0, T Muster (Austria) bt D Rikl (Cz) 6-1, 7-6.

BRIGHTON: Women's tournament: Second round: N Tauziat (Fr) bt A Huber (Ger) 7-5, 6-4, H Sukova (Cz) bt T Whitlinger-Jones (US) 6-1, 6-2 Quarter-finals: J Novotna (Cz) bt K Maleeva (Bul) 6-4, 6-2; Sukova bt Tauziat 6-4, 7-5.

YACHTING

BOC CHALLENGE: Leading positions (at 08.00GMT yesterday, with miles to Cape Town): Class 1: 1, Ecureuil Poitou-Charente (I Aussier, Fr) 345 miles; 2, Hunter's Child (S Pettengill, US) 1,654. 3, Ben Vio (J Provoyeur, SA) 1,853; 4, Vendee Entreprises (J van den Heede, Fr) 1,862; 5, Coyote (D Scully, US) 1,983. 6, Sceta Calberson (C Auguin, Fr) 2,911; 7, Thursday's Child (A Taylor, US) 2,889 Class 2: 1, Kodak (G Soldini, It) 1,904; 2, True Blue (D Adams, Aus) 1,948; 3, Jimroda II (N Vaughan, GB) 2,475, 4, Newcastle Australia (A Nebauer, Aus) 2,497; 5, Sky Catcher (N Rowe, GB) 2,922; 6, Shuten-Dohji II (M Saito, Japan) 3,353; 7, Town of Cervia (S Blanchetti, It) 3,384, 8, Cornwall (R Davis, GB) 3,418. 9, Protect Our Sealife (N Peterson, SA) 3,541: 10, Henry Hornblower (H Mitchell, GB) 3,544, 11, Cardiac 88 (F Romack, US) 4,441.

Early winter rules at Marienbad

By Our Sports Staff

GORDON Brand Jr hit a sand-iron stone dead for a birdie three at the fourth hole to take the lead at six under par just as darkness halted play in the second round of the ill-fated Chemapol Czech Open at Marienbad yesterday.

Brand, 36, still has three holes to complete his round, which, like the first, is being decided over 15 holes because frost delayed the start of play by more than two hours for the second successive day.

The Bristol-based player had begun his second round as joint leader with his fellow, Scot Sam Torrance, and the New Zealander, Frank Nobilo, after all three had scored 54, five under par, on the opening day.

Torrance, who is suffering from tonsillitis, fell back after playing 11 holes yesterday in one over par, while Nobilo completed his second round in 59 for a total of 113, also five under par.

Brand, who started his round at the 8th hole, had birdies at the 12th and 4th and only one bogey, at the 17th, where he drove into a bush. "The weather was a lot warmer," Brand said. "I didn't play quite as well as yesterday but not too badly considering the conditions. I was pleased with my last hole because, though it was getting dark, I hit my sand-iron so close that I could just tap the ball in."

Brand leads Nobilo by one shot with Torrance, Robert Allenby, of Australia, who has played 26 holes, Klaus Eriksson, of Sweden, who has played 23, and Barry Lane — who scored a second-round 55 — all at four under par. Severiano Ballesteros is one over par with four holes to play.

Some 44 players failed to complete their second rounds and the tournament director, David Probyn, had to take drastic action. After first announcing that he would play only three rounds, he changed his mind. Now he intends to finish the second round this morning, weather permitting, and only the leading 50 players and those tying for fiftieth place will make the cut.

There will be a shotgun start for the third round, with all the qualifiers playing from different tees at the same time, with a fourth round tomorrow.

☐ Scott Hoch had six consecutive birdies, from the 8th to 13th holes, while scoring 63 in his second round in the five-round Las Vegas Invitational. Hoch, with a total of 129, has a two-stroke lead.

Hanley adopts high-risk approach

Great Britain need surprise element to pass speed test

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

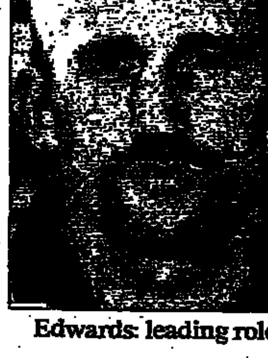
FOR all the soothsayers' calamitous predictions for Great Britain in the first John Smith's rugby league international at Wembley today, it is worth recounting that it was only two years ago that Bobby Fulton, the Australia coach, pronounced that Britain had no more catching up to do. He maintained that the gap between the countries was closed.

In the 1992 World Cup final, Australia's tactical skill was matched. But for one unfortunate error, Britain might have been labelled world champions. The gloomy prognosis raised by this present trail-blazing Australia tour party is that the game in England has been running on the spot since. Australia, meanwhile, have taken a quantum leap.

Lending Fulton's comment too much credence was always dangerous, though it is not that Britain are without hope for the three-match series, despite a 24-year drought against Australia. A good side — and Britain were exceptional in their 3-0 series triumph against New Zealand last year — has not suddenly become a bad one.

Although portrayed as supermen, Australia have shown the odd glimpse of vulnerability. The best chance for Britain is the element of surprise they have generally been good at creating, but which was lacking in the dour percentage game that turned the teams' last meeting, in the World Cup final, into a version of chess. A repeat is unlikely.

Australia are adaptable enough to revert to a rigid policy of five drives and hoof downfield, but it is their expansive game that is winning admirers and influencing results. Moreover, the speed will be met by speed. "I think it will be a fast game and mobility is essential," Ellery Hanley, the Britain coach, has said. There are dangers in this, not least the choice of Chris Joynt, normally a second-row forward, at prop, a position unfamiliar to him, but Hanley knows that boldness holds the key. That and elimination of the handling errors that Australia feed on like locusts.



Edwards: leading role

With Paul Newlove and Kelvin Skerrett out until the second international at Old Trafford in two weeks, Britain are without their outstanding centre and prop. The resignation of Malcolm Reilly after seven years left Hanley only eight weeks in which to plot the downfall of opponents *par excellence*.

Australia contemptuously brushed aside his Leeds team in their second tour match, yet Hanley the coach is still a devil that Fulton would prefer to have known better going into the series. Australia's cagey coach would commit himself only as far as saying the match would be a close spectacle.

The presence of an Australian referee will be an advantage to the touring team. Graham Annesley has told Hanley he will rigorously police the ten-metre offside rule at the play-the-ball. The Australian game has been subject to this for almost two years. The greater space on offer encourages attack and, as Wigan and others have found, the job then is slowing, let alone halting, the Australians' momentum.

Among the backs, Daley, Renouf, Ettingshausen, and the excellent debutant, Wendell Sailor, need no second bidding. They are likely to be prompted at scrum half by Allan Langer, but Fulton will keep Britain guessing until a few hours before kick-off by keeping Ricky Stuart's name on the team sheet.

Britain will require a faultless kicking game. Jonathan Davies and Shaun Edwards, the new captain, might kick as early as the third or even second tackle in an attempt to hound Australia and disrupt their rhythm. Over the top of a flatly aligned Australia backline, accurate kicks could wreak havoc, but aimed at Mullins, the full back, they would be inviting trouble.

Before Britain can get into a position to spread the ball and exploit the pace on the wings of Offiah and Robinson, the forwards must contain an Australia pack which possesses an edge in strength as well as pace.

Without the redoubtable defence necessary to tie the Kangaroos down at the merest hint of danger, Britain will lose, but probably nowhere near as badly as the pessimists are forecasting.

Obituary, page 23

GREAT BRITAIN		AUSTRALIA	
J Davies (Warrington)	1 Full back	B Mullins (Canberra)	1
J Robinson (Wigan)	2 R Wing	A Ettingshausen (Cronulla)	2
A Hunte (St Helens)	3 Centre	M Meninga* (Canberra)	3
G Connolly (Wigan)	4 Centre	S Renouf (Brisbane)	4
M Offiah (Wigan)	5 L Wing	W Sailor (Brisbane)	5
D Powell (Sheffield Eagles)	6 Stand-off	L Daley (Canberra)	6
S Edwards* (Wigan)	7 Scrum half	A Langer (Brisbane) or R Stuart (Canberra)	7
K Harrison (Halifax)	8 Prop	I Roberts (Manly)	8
L Jackson (Sheffield Eagles)	9 Hooker	S Walters (Canberra)	9
C Joynt (St Helens)	10 Prop	P Harragon (Newcastle)	10
D Betts (Wigan)	11 2nd row	P Sironen (Balmain)	11
A Farrell (Wigan)	12 2nd row	B Clyde (Canberra)	12
P Clarke (Wigan)	13 Loose fwd	B Fittler (Penrith)	13

* denotes captain

Referee: G Annesley (Australia)

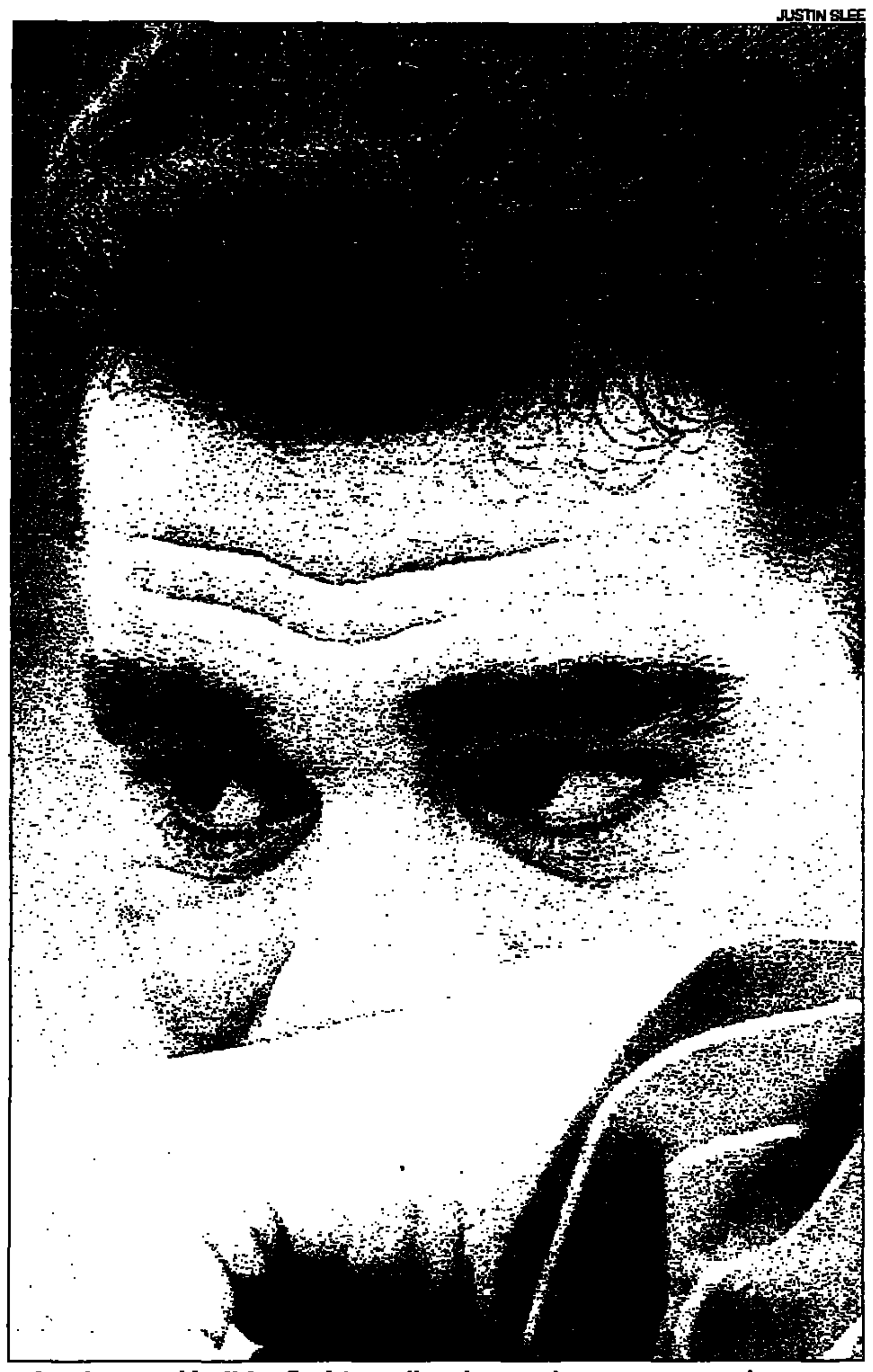
Substitutes: 14 B Goulding (St Helens), 15 B McDermott (Wigan), 16 A Bateman (Warrington), 17 M Cassidy (Wigan).

Substitutes: 14 Langer or Stuart, 15 T Brasher (Balmain), 16 D Pay (Canterbury), 17 D Furner (Canberra).

Wembley waves a giant farewell

Christopher Irvine talks to Mal Meninga, the retiring colossus of world rugby league

JUSTIN SLEE



Meninga would relish a final Australian victory today on a great sporting stage

From the player whose very presence, mental as much as physical, best sums up the obstacle facing Shaun Edwards and his Great Britain rugby league side at Wembley today, comes a note of encouragement: "If they play to their potential, they are quite capable of beating us."

Shades of Wembley 1990, perhaps? Mal Meninga is not one for comparisons, but after 12 years experiencing the best and worst of British, he is intimate with its strengths and weaknesses. "We keep hearing about a pushover. They are no pushovers," the Australia captain said. "We got it wrong four years ago and got smacked for it."

Not that the evidence of this tour so far has suggested a similar upset. A half-decent performance by Wigan and Halifax's spirited resistance hardly disguise the fact that this team is emulating what its most famous predecessors did in 1982 — forcing the game here to take a long, hard inward stare.

The likes of Sailor, Renouf and Mullins are doing what Meninga, now 34, managed on the first of his four tours. As the 1982 "Invincibles" laid waste the English game, Meninga plundered a record 48 points in three internationals alone. Between that feat and this series, which will conclude a remarkable playing career, Meninga has reached icon status at home.

He will go willingly, with neither arrogance nor ill-will, after a career founded on a refreshingly simple philosophy, adopted when he took up the sport at 16 at the Queensland Police Academy. "I just love footie, putting the boots on, getting on the field," he said. "There are the ambitions, sure, but enjoyment is the great reward. There is the enjoyment of being part of the team, of being captain, but I'm also going to enjoy retirement too." And his great face lit up.

Meninga's easy-going nature was not always appreciated in a land that likes its heroes to be aggressive. It was the way he refused to submit after breaking his arm four times in two years, first in 1987, that sealed his status as a legend.

Until the 1982 tour, the game here had rarely glimpsed so powerful a man glide through defences. At 17 stones and 6ft 1in, Meninga had the effortless grace of a dancer, with outsized hands through which the ball would pass with exquisite delicacy, and yet send would-be try-stoppers flying like rag dolls.

When St Helens won the race for his signature in 1984, crowds doubled and years of decline were reversed. Two of the 28 tries he scored in 31 matches came in the Premiership final defeat of Hull KR. "It was a wonderful experience for me, but I'm surprised they still remember ten years down the track," Meninga said. The fact is he remains a folk hero in the town which adopted him for seven months.

Born into a rugby league family, the bigotry that he encountered while playing for Brisbane Souths once led him to hit a spectator. "I was coloured, a policeman, had a media profile, so perhaps was a target," he said.

The series of broken arms might have cut short his career, but by 1989 he had regained his international place and led Canberra Raiders to the first of three Australian championships in six years. Winning the Sydney Grand Final with Canberra last month was a fitting swansong, but Meninga knows what would be his most treasured moment: "Winning the Ashes at the end of this tour would probably surpass everything. Then I could put me feet up a bit happier." He would love to have 22-year-old legs with the head he has now. "Sure, the speed and agility have gone, but you make it up in guile," he said.

This afternoon is another farewell, this time to the most special of sporting stages. By the end of the series, Meninga should have equalled the world record of Graeme Langland, of New Zealand, of 45 international and World Cup appearances, landed the goal that takes him to a century for Australia, and, quite probably, caused Great Britain to tear their hair out yet again. Truly a giant among men.

IN BRIEF

Kirwan goes out in style

JOHN Kirwan concluded his rugby union playing career in suitably festive vein in Auckland's Mount Smart Stadium yesterday (David Hands writes). The New Zealand wing led a Barbarians side to a 59-35 victory over their Australian counterparts and scored two tries and kicked three conversions in doing so.

Zinzan Brooke, the Auckland No 8, failed to appear for yesterday's judicial hearing into the brawl at the provincial championship final last weekend and his case has been postponed. One-week suspensions were handed to the North Harbour players, Blair Larsen and Mark Weedon.

Trophy clash

Cyclo-cross: Roger Hammond, the former world junior champion and now Britain's open champion at the age of 20, takes on the professional, Steve Douce, six times a winner, tomorrow in the opening round of the National Trophy series in Manchester.

Reveiz on target

American football: Fuad Reveiz led the Minnesota Vikings to a 13-10 victory over the Green Bay Packers on Thursday by kicking field goals that tied and won the game. Reveiz levelled the scores with a 29-yard kick with 17 seconds left and, after 4min 26sec of overtime, kicked a 27-yarder.

Final fling

Badminton: England's 4-1 victory over China at Mansfield on Thursday has ensured the outcome of the international series will remain in doubt at least until Gill Clark breaks the record number of caps at St Austell tomorrow.

Close to port

Yachting: Isabelle Autissier, leading the BOC solo round-the-world race, is expected to reach Cape Town, the first stop, early tomorrow, more than five days ahead of her closest rival. The Frenchwoman's 60ft yacht, *Ecureuil Poitou Charentes 2*, was within 300 miles of the finish last night.

Handsome win

Tennis: Paul Hand, of Great Britain, saved three match points on his way to his first LTA autumn satellite final in Sheffield yesterday. Hand, 29, from Wokingham, defeated Petr Pala, from the Czech Republic, 4-6 7-6 6-3 to qualify for a meeting today with Roger Wassen, the Dutchman who has dominated the circuit so far.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
Pools coupon numbers in brackets
** denotes all-ticket match*

FA Carling Premiership

(1) Aston Villa v Nottm Forest
(—) Crystal Palace v Everton
(2) Leeds v Leicester P
(3) * Liverpool v Wimbledon
(4) Man City v Tottenham
(5) Newcastle v Sheff Wed
(6) Norwich v QPR
(—) West Ham v Southampton

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
[illegible]	10	8	2	0	27	9	26
Nottm Forest	10	7	3	0	23	11	24
Blackburn	10	6	3	1	21	8	21
Man Utd	10	6	1	3	15	7	19
Liverpool	9	5	2	2	21	10	17
Norwich	10	4	4	2	8	8	16
Chelsea	9	5	0	4	18	13	15
Man City	10	4	3	3	16	14	15
Leeds	10	4	3	3	13	11	15
Southampton	10	4	3	3	17	17	15
Arsenal	10	4	2	4	14	11	14
Tottenham	10	4	2	4	16	18	14
Sheff Wed	10	3	3	4	13	18	12
Coventry	10	3	3	4	12	18	12
West Ham	10	3	2	5	5	11	11
Aston Villa	10	2	4	4	11	14	10
Wimbledon	10	2	3	5	8	15	9
Leicester	10	2	3	5	13	21	9
QPR	10	1	4	5	13	18	7
Crystal Palace	10	1	4	5	6	14	7
Ipswich	10	2	1	7	10	19	7
Everton	10	0	3	7	7	22	3

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division

(7) Barnsley v West Brom
(8) Charlton v Burnley
(9) Grimsby v Bristol City
(—) Oldham v Stoke
(10) Port Vale v Bolton
(11) Reading v Sunderland
(12) Sheff Utd v Luton
(13) Swindon v Southend
(14) Watford v Tranmere
(—) Wolverhampton v Millwall

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wolves	12	8	2	2	22	10	26
Reading	12	7	3	2	17	6	24
Tranmere	12	7	2	3	20	15	23
Middlesbrough	12	7	2	3	17	12	23
Swindon	12	6	2	4	18	15	20
Charlton	12	5	4	3	22	19	19
Stoke	12	5	2	5	17	20	17
Southend	12	5	2	5	12	20	17
Oldham	12	5	1	6	20	20	16
Bolton	12	4	4	4	19	16	16
Luton	12	4	4	4	17	16	16
Portsmouth	12	4	4	4	16	17	16
Sheff Utd	12	4	4	4	13	9	16
Sunderland	12	3	7	2	12	9	16
Derby	12	4	3	5	13	13	15
Bristol City	12	4	3	5	10	11	15
Grimsby	12	3	5	4	19	16	14
Watford	12	3	5	4	13	17	14
Port Vale	12	4	2	6	13	18	14
Barnsley	12	3	5	4	9	12	14
Millwall	12	2	5	5	14	17	11
Burnley	12	2	5	5	9	15	11
West Brom	12	2	4	6	10	20	10
Notts County	12	1	4	7	14	23	7

Second division

(15) Blackpool v Swansea
(16) Bournemouth v Bradford
(17) Brentford v Birmingham
(18) Bristol Rovers v Brighton
(19) Cardiff v Cambridge Utd
(20) Crewe v Huddersfield
(21) Peterborough v Wycombe
(22) Rotherham v Leyton Orient
(23) Shrewsbury v Hull
(24) Stockport v Plymouth
(25) Wrexham v Oxford Utd
(26) York v Chester

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor v Llanelli; Barry v Holywell; Caersws v Flint; Connah's Quay v Inter Cardiff (2.30); Cwmbran v Rhyl; Ebbw Vale v Conwy; Maesteg v Llansantffraid; Mold v Aberystwyth; Newtown v Afan Lido (2.30); Porthmadog v Ton Pentre (2.30)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Huddersfield	12	8	3	1	29	15	27
Oxford Utd	12	8	3	1	24	12	27
Stockport	12	8	1	3	25	15	25
Brentford	12	8	0	4	22	12	24
Wycombe	12	7	2	3	19	15	23
Crewe	12	7	1	4	23	17	22
Bradford	12	6	2	4	20	16	20
Blackpool	12	6	2	4	20	18	20
Birmingham	12	5	5	2	19	11	20
Wrexham	12	5	4	3	17	14	19
Hull	12	5	3	4	16	17	18
Peterborough	12	4	5	3	16	19	17
Bristol Rovers	12	3	7	2	16	13	16
Brighton	12	4	4	4	13	14	16
Shrewsbury	12	4	3	5	20	16	15
York	12	3	4	5	16	16	13
Swansea	12	2	7	3	13	14	13
Plymouth	12	3	3	6	11	23	12
Cambridge Utd	12	3	2	7	15	22	11
Leyton Orient	12	3	2	7	13	20	11
Rotherham	12	3	2	7	13	21	11
Cardiff	12	1	4	7	13	21	7
Chester	12	1	2	9	9	21	5
Bournemouth	12	1	1	10	9	29	4

Third division

(27) Bury v Gillingham
(28) Carlisle v Barnet
(29) Chesterfield v Fulham
(30) Colchester v Preston
(31) Darlington v Hereford
(32) Exeter v Scunthorpe
(33) Hartlepool v Walsall
(34) Lincoln v Scarborough
(35) Mansfield v Doncaster
(36) Northampton v Wigan
(37) Torquay v Rochdale

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bury	12	9	1	2	21	3	28
Carlisle	12	8	3	1	19	10	27
Walsall	12	6	4	2	21	12	22
Barnet	12	6	4	2	18	11	22
Doncaster	12	6	4	2	17	10	22
Chesterfield	12	6	2	4	14	10	20
Rochdale	12	6	1	5	19	23	19
Scunthorpe	12	6	1	5	18	14	19
Torquay	12	5	3	4	18	16	18
Mansfield	12	5	2	5	14	12	17
Colchester	12	5	2	5	13	19	17
Fulham	12	4	4	4	15	14	16
Darlington	12	4	3	5	12	13	15
Preston	12	4	2	6	15	15	14
Lincoln	12	4	2	6	14	17	14
Exeter	12	4	2	6	8	17	14
Hereford	12	3	4	5	13	18	13
Scarborough	12	3	2	7	13	21	11
Gillingham	12	3	2	7	12	19	11
Hartlepool	12	3	2	7	8	15	11
Northampton	12	1	7	4	11	14	10
Wigan	12	2	1	9	15	25	7

Vauxhall Conference

(38) Kidderminster v Bath
(39) Woking v Runcorn
(—) Welling v Gateshead

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division

(40) Celtic v Falkirk
(—) Dundee Utd v Hibernian
(41) Hearts v Aberdeen
(42) Kilmarnock v Partick
(43) Motherwell v Rangers

First division

(44) Dunfermline v Airdrie
(45) Hamilton v Ayr
(46) St Johnstone v Raith
(47) St Mirren v Dundee
(48) Stranraer v Clydebank

Second division

(49) Berwick v Greenock Morton
(50) Clyde v Stenhousemuir
(51) Dumbarton v Queen Of South
(52) East Fife v Stirling
(53) Meadowbank v Brechin

Third division

(54) Alloa v Albion
(55) Arbroath v Cale This
(56) East Stirling v Montrose
(57) Forfar v Queen's Park
(58) Ross County v Cowdenbeath

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Second round: Replay: Carno v Presteigne.

FA CUP: Fourth qualifying round: Accrington Stanley v Spennymoor; Southport v Stalybridge Celtic; Altrincham v Marine; Guiseley v Durham City; Bishop Auckland v Macclesfield Town; Morecambe v Witton Albion; Northwich Victoria v Blyth Spartans; Hyde v Warrington; Halifax v Lancaster; Stafford v Slough; St Albans v Enfield; Chesham v Bromsgrove; Braintree v Gresley; Burton v Hitchin; Nuneaton v Heybridge Swifts; VS Rugby v Chelmsford; Yeading v Telford; Moor Green v Aylesbury; Gloucester v Worthing; Marlow v Sutton United; Tiverton v Farnborough; Dover v Kingstonian; Hastings v Crawley; Walton and Hersham v Yeovil; Salisbury v Ashford; Newport (IoW) v Trowbridge; Cheltenham v Bashley.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Dorchester v Rushden and Diamonds; Halesowen v Hednesford; Hastings v Atherstone; Sittingbourne v Leek; Solihull v Worcester; Trowbridge v Gravesend and Northfleet. Midland division: Armitage v Moor Green; Bilston v Dudley; Bridgnorth v Hinckley Town; Forest Green v Redditch; Grantham v Sutton Coldfield; Ilkeston v Newport AFC; King's Lynn v Evesham; Leicester United v Rothwell; RC Warwick v Stourbridge; Tamworth v Buckingham. Southern division: Burnham v Waterlooville; Bury Town v Weston-super-Mare; Clevedon v Tonbridge; Erith and Belvedere v Margate; Fisher '93 v Weymouth; Havant v Wealdstone; Witney v Baldock; Yate v Poole.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: *Carshalton v Harrow*; Grays v Hendon; Hayes v Bishop's Stortford; Hitchin v Wokingham; Purfleet v Molesey. First division: Abingdon Town v Leyton; Barking v Uxbridge; Basingstoke v Tooting and Mitcham; Berkhamsted v Newbury; Billericay v Maidenhead; Bognor Regis v Boreham Wood; Chertsey v Aldershot Town (2.0); Dorking v Ruislip Manor; Whyteleafe v Wembley; Wivenhoe v Staines. Second division: Bracknell v Tilbury; Cheshunt v Banstead; Edgware v Chalfont St Peter; Egham v Metropolitan Police; Hampton v Croydon; Hemel Hempstead v Barton; Hungerford v Aveley; Leatherhead v Saffron Walden; Oxford City v Ware; Windsor and Eton v Malden Vale; Witham v Thame. Third division: Canvey Island v Bedford Town; Clapton v Tring; Collier Row v Northwood; East Thurrock v Lewes; Epsom and Ewell v Harlow; Flackwell Heath v Cove; Harefield v Feltham and Hounslow; Hertford v Horsham; Kingsbury v Leighton; Southall v Camberley.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Barrow v Matlock; Boston United v Spennymoor; Chorley v Frickley; Colwyn Bay v Whitley Bay; Emley v Knowsley; Gainsborough v Hyde. First division: Alfreton v Radcliffe Borough; Atherton L R v Fleetwood; Bamber Bridge v Gretna; Curzon Ashton v Worksop; Eastwood v Harrogate; Goole v Farsley Celtic; Great Harwood v Caernarfon; Mossley v Congleton; Workington v Ashton United.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Amersham v St Margaretsbury; Beaconsfield Sycob v Cockfosters; Brimsdown Rovers v Croydon Athletic; Brook House v Walthamstow Pennant; Hanwell v Tower Hamlets; Hillingdon Borough v Barkingside; Waltham Abbey v Corinthian-Casuals; Willesden v Haringey Borough.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Horley; Bedfont v Godalming and Guildford; Cobham v Viking Sports; Cranleigh v Ash; Eton Wick v Westfield; Hartley Wintney v Farnham; Merstham v DCA Basingstoke; Peppard v Netherne; Sandhurst v Chipstead.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Andover v Petersfield; BAT v AFC Lymington; Bournemouth v Eastleigh; Christchurch v Horndean; Downton v Fleet; East Cowes Vics v AFC Totton; Portsmouth RN v Ryde Sports; Swanage and Herston v Aerostructures; Thatcham v Cowes Sports; Wimborne v Brockenhurst.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Newhaven, Hailsham Town v Littlehampton; Oakwood v Pagham; Portfield v Eastbourne Town, Shoreham v Langney Sports; Three Bridges v Ringmer; Whitehawk v Stamco; Wick v Southwick. FA RUR Charity Cup: First round: Replay: Peacehaven and Telscombe v Burgess Hill.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Swindon Supermarine v Cinderford.

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston v Bourne; Desborough v Mirrlees Blackstone, Eynesbury v Cogenhoe; Newport Pagnell v Holbeach; Northampton Spencer v Spalding; Raunds v Long Buckby; Stotfold v S and L Corby; Wellingborough v Kempston, Wootton v Potton.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Boldmere St Michael v Halesowen Harriers; Boldmere Swifts v Brierley Hill; Chasetown v Oldbury; Knypersley Vic v Rushall; Pershore v Hinckley Athletic. Sandwell v Willenhall; Shifnal v Rocester; Stapenhill v Shepshed; Stratford v Barwell; West Midlands Police v Paget Rangers

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold v Denaby; Ashfield v Lincoln United; Brigg v Armthorpe Welfare; Glasshoughton Welfare v Belper; Hallam v Sheffield; Maltby MW v Ossett Albion; Ossett Town v North Ferriby; Pickering v Pontefract Collieries; Stocksbridge P S v Liversedge; Thackley v Hucknall

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bacup Borough v Burscough; Blackpool Rovers v Bootle; Bradford Park Avenue v Rossendale, *Chadderton v St Helens; Darwen v Penrith*, Glossop North End v Trafford; Kidsgrove v Salford; Maine Road v Clitheroe; Nantwich v Newcastle Town; Prescot v Eastwood Hanley; Skelmersdale v Holker Old Boys. Challenge Cup: Final: Maghull v Formby.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Bedlington v Shildon; Chester-le-Street v Northallerton; Ferryhill v Whitby; Guisborough v West Auckland; Hebburn v Billingham Synthonia; Murton v Prudhoe; Peterlee v Dunston FB, Seaham Red Star v RTM Newcastle; Tow Law v Eppleton CW

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Southampton v QPR

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Distillery; Ballymena v Linfield Bangor v Crusaders; Carrick v Ballyclare; Cliftonville v Newry; Coleraine v Glenavon; Glentoran v Omagh Town; Portadown v Larne.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Galway United v Cork City (7.0); St Patricks Ath v Sligo Rovers (7.45)

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Cambridge United; Ipswich v Norwich; Millwall v Gillingham, Southend v Portsmouth. Second division: Brentford v Oxford United. Reading v Southampton, Wycombe Wanderers v Swindon. League Cup: Second round: Bristol City v Bristol Rovers: Charlton v Chelsea; Colchester v Luton, Crystal Palace v Brighton; Fulham v Wimbledon; Queen's Park Rangers v Bournemouth, Tottenham v Leyton Orient; West Ham v Watford.

LONDON OLD BOYS: League: Old Ignatians v Old Tenisonians Senior Cup: Chertsey v Old Vaughanians; Glyn v Phoenix, Old Hamptonians v Old Wilsonians, Old Aloysians v Clapham, Old Meadonians v Old Addeyans; Old Minchendenians v Cardinal Manning, Old Monovians v Old Danes, Old Suttonians v Old Southallians; Latymer Old Boys v Mill Hill City. Old Kingsburians v Old Edmontonians; Old Isleworthians v Old Alpertonians, Shene OG v Old Greenfordians, Old Bradfieldians v Old Tiffinians. Old Westhamians v William Fitt; Old Wykehamists v John Fisher OB, Old Chigwellians v Old Tollingtonians; Leyton v Old Dorkinians, Old Grocers v Old Carthusians

RUGBY LEAGUE

John Smith's International
Great Britain v Australia
(at Wembley 2.45)

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Sheffield (6.0), Bracknell v Edinburgh (6.0), Fife v Whitley (7.15). Milton Keynes v Durham (6.30), Nottingham v Cardiff (6.30), Peterborough v Humberside (6.30). First division: Blackburn v Paisley (6.0): Chelmsford v Lee Valley (6.30). Dumfries v Romford (5.30). Medway v Trafford (6.15): Slough v Solihull (6.30): Swindon v Teesside (5.30). Telford v Guildford (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Birmingham v Sheffield (6.0); Hemel v Derby (7.30): Thames Valley v Leicester (8.0). Worthing v Manchester (8.0)

SNOOKER: Skoda Grand Prix (Derby)

SPEEDWAY: British League (7.30): First division: Coventry v Arena Essex, King's Lynn v Poole. Knock-Out Cup: Final, first leg: Cradley Heath v Eastbourne

TENNIS: International women's tournament (Brighton)

VOLLEYBALL: Men: First division: Liverpool v Wessex (5.30), Ealing v Whitefield (7.0): Newcastle Staffs (6.30): Lewisham v Camden (3.0)

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Tour match

Cardiff v South Africa XV (2.30)

Courage Clubs Championship
First division

Bath v Leicester (2.30)
Bristol v Wasps
Harlequins v Orrell
Northampton v Gloucester
Sale v West Hartlepool (2.15)

Second division

Coventry v Fylde
Moseley v Waterloo
Newcastle Gosforth v Saracens
Nottingham v London Scottish
Wakefield v London Irish

Third division

Bedford v Blackheath
Clifton v Rosslyn Park
Otley v Exeter
Richmond v Morley
Rugby v Harrogate

Fourth division

Aspatria v Liverpool St Helens
Broughton Park v Reading
Havant v Rotherham
Leeds v Askeans
Redruth v Plymouth

Fifth division north

Barkers Butts v Stourbridge
Lichfield v Nuneaton
Preston Grasshoppers v Stoke
Sheffield v Birmingham Solihull
Walsall v Hereford
Wharfedale v Kendal

Fifth division south

Barking v Weston-super-Mare
Berry Hill v Camborne
London Welsh v Basingstoke
Lydney v High Wycombe
Met Police v Henley
Sudbury v North Walsham

LONDON: First division: Ealing v Guildford and Godalming, Eton Manor v Old Colfeians, Maidstone v Harlow, Southend v Esher. Streatham and Croydon v Old Mid-*Whitgiftians*. Sutton and Epsom v Camberley

SOUTH WEST: First division: Barnstaple v Sherborne, Cheltenham v Cinderford, Newbury v Torquay, Salisbury v Gloucester OB. St Ives v Stroud, Taunton v Brixham

MIDLANDS: First division: Burton v Whitchurch, Derby v Stafford Leamington v Camp Hill, Mansfield v Syston, Towcestrians v Worcester, Westleigh v Wolverhampton

NORTH: First division: Durham City v Huddersfield, Hull Ionians v Stockton, Middlesbrough v West Park Bramhope, Sandal v Widnes, Tynedale v York, Wigton v Manchester.

Heineken League

First division

Newbridge v Llanelli (2.30)

Swalec Cup: Second round: Nantymoel v Seven Sisters, Llandaff v Abercrave, *Ystalyfera v Celnerthin*; Lampeter Town v St Josephs FP (Pt Talbot), Cardiff Univ v Aberaman, Aberavon Green Star v Denbigh, Cardiff Quins v Old Illtydians, Merthyr v Rumney; Pontyclun v Llantwit Fadre, Glyncoch v Porthcawl, Chepstow v Hartridge HSOB, Treherbert v Pontyberem, British Steel (Pt Talbot) v Felinfoel; RTB (Ebbw vale) v Ynysybwl, Ruthin v Bynea, Mold v Wrexham, Pencoed v Neath Athletic; Barry v Brynmawr, Rhyl v Trimant; Old Penarthians v Llantwit Major, Dolgellau v Morriston, Pontyates v Tylorstown, Milford Haven v Pontycymmer, Cwmllynfell v Gilfach Goch; Machen v Amman United, Tonrefail v Penclawdd, Laugharne v Ammanford, Llanybydder v Penyrch, Rhydyfelin v Croesyceiliog; Bridgend Ath v Garndiffaith; Birchgrove v Abergavenny, Wattstown v Penygroes, Colwyn Bay v Fleur de Lys; Lampeter College v Risca, *Aberystwyth v Skewen; Pwllheli v Blaenavon*. Cumavon v Trebanos, Tredegar Ironsides v Brynamman; Penygraig v Gorseinon, Mumbles v Cardigan, Resolven v Cowbridge, Nelson v Newport Saracens, Llangwm v Ystrad Rhondda, Pill Harriers v Caldicot, Newport HSOB v Hendy. Llandeilo v Loughor; Bargoed v Blaenau Gwent, St Joseph's (Cardiff) v Llandybie, Tycroes v Neyland; Abercarn v Pembroke, New Dock Stars v Brecon; Tonmawr v Cefn Coed, Hirwaun v Rhiwbina

Representative matches

Scottish District v Irish Provinces
Connacht v Scottish North and Mid (at Sportsground, Galway 2.30)
Glasgow District v Leinster (at Burnbrae, Glasgow 2.30)
Munster v Edinburgh District (at Thomond Park, Limerick 2.30)
South Of Scotland v Ulster (at Poynder Park, Kelso 2.30)

Club matches

Abertillery v Llandovery (2.30)
Ayr v Boroughmuir
Cambridge Univ v Trinity Coll Dublin
Clarkston v Musselburgh
Cross Keys v Newport (2.30)
Dundee HSFP v Peebles
Dunfermline v Corstorphine
Dungannon v Univ College Dublin (2.30)
Dunvant v Tenby United (2.30)
Edinburgh Wndrs v Currie
Glasgow H K v Instonians
Gala v Selkirk
Glasgow Acads v Kilmarnock
Gordonians v Glenrothes
Grangemouth v West of Scotland
Haddington v Stewartry
Llanharan v Pontypool (2.30)
Pontypridd v Aberavon (2.30)
Preston Lodge v Hillhead-Jordanhill
Swansea v Maesteg (2.30)
Treorchy v Penarth (2.30)
Watsonians v Aspen
Wigtownshire v Dalziel HSFP

HOCKEY

Training match

Cannock v England XI (Cardiff, 2.30)

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A. Bluecharts v Bishop's Stortford, Cambridge Univ v Peterborough Town: Chelmsford v Redbridge and Ilford. Dereham v Colchester. Luton v Ipswich. Premier division B: Ipswich and E Suffolk v Old Southendian, Norwich City v Westcliff, Pelicans v Bedford; Romford v Bury St Edmunds: Sudbury v Stevenage

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding v Hightown-Northern; Formby v Norton; Harrogate v Blackburn; Southport v Timperley; Warrington v Stockton.

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLAND LEAGUE: Hampton In Arden v Leicester Westleigh, Harborne v Lichfield, Khalsa v Belper, Nottingham v Bloxwich, Olton and West Warwickshire v North Notts.

SUN LIFE WEST LEAGUE: First division: Bath Buccaneers v Plymouth; Swansea v Weston-super-Mare; Taunton Vale v Exeter University; West Glos v Cheltenham, West Wiltshire v Hereford

NASTRO AZZURRO SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier league: Ashford v Dulwich; Chichester v Anchorians; City Of Portsmouth v Maidenhead. High Wycombe v Old Kingstonians; Lewes v Winchester; Lyons v Fareham, Old Walcountians v Oxford Hawks; Old Whitgiftians v Staines, Wimbledon v Gore Court. Woking v Spencer. Regional Leagues: Hampshire/Surrey: *Barnes v Hamble Old Boys, Bournemouth v* Oxted; Camberley v Petersfield, Epsom v Basingstoke; Lensbury v London University; Old Edwardians v Merton. Oxshott v Old Mid-Whitgiftians, Purley v Cheam. Purley v Fleet, Weybridge Hawks v Southampton Tautonians. Kent/Sussex: Belvedere v Crawley; Herne Bay v Bognor. Horsham v Bexleyheath; Marden Russets v Blackheath; Middleton v Gravesend. Mid Sussex v Tulse Hill, Old Bordenians v Brighton; Old Holcombeians v Beckenham, Old Williamsonians v Tunbridge Wells. Sevenoaks v Greenwich. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham v Richings Park, Aylesbury v Marlow. Bracknell v Old Merchant Taylors. City of Oxford v PHC Chiswick. Eastcote v Newbury. Gerrards Cross v Milton Keynes, HCC v Hayes. Headington v Ramgarhia, Hendon v Mill Hill, Wokingham v Sunbury

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*

FA Carling Premiership

Arsenal v Coventry
* Blackburn v Man Utd (4.0)
Chelsea v Ipswich

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division

Notts County v Derby (2.55)
Portsmouth v Middlesbrough (2.55)

FA CUP: Fourth qualifying round: Solihull v Kettering (at Chester-le-Street)

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: *Premier division: Cobh Ramblers v Derry* City (2.30). Monaghan United v Shamrock Rovers (2.30).

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: AFC Lymington v East Cowes Vics.

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: Arsenal v Doncaster Belles, Croydon v Red Star Southampton; Leasowe Pacific v Liverpool FC Ladies; Wembley v Millwall Lionesses; Wolverhampton Wanderers v Ilkeston Town Rangers.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester v Thames Valley (6.0): London v Doncaster (5.0). Sheffield v Hemel (6.15)

HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Hull v *Canterbury* (Orchard Park, 2.0). Indian Gymkhana v Surbiton (Feltham School, 2.0), Trojans v Bournville (Stoneham Lane, Eastleigh, 1.30) Second division: Bromley v Oxford University (Priory Leisure Centre, Orpington, 1.0), Crostyx v Barford Tigers (Chigwell, 1.0); Doncaster v Cambridge City (Bennetthorpe, 2.0), Edgbaston v St Albans (Birmingham University, 12.30); Gloucester City v Sheffield (Plock Court, 1.30), Harleston Magpies v *Brooklands* (Shotford Heath, 2.0), Isca v Hampstead and Westminster (Exeter School, 1.0), Neston v Beeston (Raby Park, 2.0); Richmond v Whitchurch (Teddington School, 2.00)

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Peterborough (6.0); Durham v Edinburgh (6.30); Humberside v Nottingham (5.45); Sheffield v Cardiff (6.0); Whitley v Bracknell (6.30) First division: Dumfries v Slough (7.0), Guildford v Chelmsford (5.15); Lee Valley v Blackburn (7.0); Paisley v Solihull (7.0): Teesside v Medway (6.30): Trafford v Romford (at Bradford, 5.30)

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: *England v China (St Austell)*

SNOOKER: Skoda Grand Prix (Derby).

SPEEDWAY: British League: First division: Knock-Out Cup: Final, first leg: Eastbourne v Cradley Heath (3.30).

TENNIS: International women's tournament (Brighton). Vauxhall Indoor Trophy: Women: Second round: Tennis World, Middlesbrough v FIFS Hallamshire Sheffield: Topspin Darlington v Northumberland; Edgbaston Priory v Long Road Cambridge. Lakenham Norwich v Boston; Lincoln Indoor v Watchorn Alfreton, Batchwood St Albans v Parklangley Bromley, David Lloyd Finchley v Clearview Brentwood. Surrey Country Club v Sutton Junior: BBC v Puma Gosling, Ealing v Carlton, Queen's Club v Chris Lane Woking, Middlesex University v David Lloyd Eastbourne, West Hants Bournemouth v Royal Berkshire

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مكتبة إسماعيل الأصيل

Saturday portrait: Helen Alfredsson, by Patricia Davies

Europe's finest find role model in drive of Swedish swinger

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN

Carruthers would never find it too dashed quiet with Helen Alfredsson about. He would find it noisy, invigorating and, doubtless, infuriating because that is how Alfredsson is.

She is also one of the most talented woman golfers in the world and is helping to spearhead Europe's defence of the Solheim Cup at The Greenbrier, in West Virginia, this weekend, needling the Americans, many of whom are friends, exchanging insults and, with luck, holing putts.

JoAnne Carner, the United States captain, is a particular friend and that is instructive. Carner, 55, from Washington (the state, not the capital), is an icon in women's golf. In her heyday, she was brash, outgoing and hit the ball miles, a fierce competitor who could not play the game impassively, whose body language yelled at the galleries who loved her.

Carner is still competing on the US tour, though the last of her 42 victories was in 1985, because she loves the game, the challenge and players with attitude. And "Alfie", whatever else she is all about, definitely has attitude.

The 29-year-old from Gothenburg is tall — 5ft 10in — and, when she puts her mind to it, striking. On the golf course, wearing her favoured sweatshirt, hair scrunched under a baseball cap, concentrating on her game, she attracts attention not just because she shouts at her ball and twists her body to try to influence its direction long after it has left the clubhead, but because she radiates intensity and excitement. She is worth watching.

Off the course, she is sometimes unrecognisable. The hair flows, the clothes are changed and you remember that this woman headed to Paris to model when she was in her teens. "That was 20lbs ago," she jokes, but the lifestyle did not suit her. It nearly killed her.

Paris is a lot more glamorous than Gothenburg and at first Alfie had a ball. However, before too long, she found that the model's life, the dream of so many young girls, the endless whirl of nightclubs and discos, was empty and rotten. You would be eyed from head to foot and she grew to hate being assessed on how she looked. It also left her feeling hollow, literally. She barely ate anything during the day, sticking to coffee and an apple, the model's staple diet. The bread would be removed during dinner and she was always hungry, always tired. She became anorexic.

Fortunately, she was still involved in golf — she had started playing at 11 and had been a Swedish team member since 1979 — and it was in Italy at a practice session that she realised what was happening to her. Wrapped in three sets of waterproofs but still freezing, she played nine holes but then had to retire to bed and woke up to find handfuls of hair over the pillow. She decided it was time to go home.

> 'She attracts attention not just because she shouts at her ball. She is worth watching'

She persuaded her agent to allow her home for a week and that was the end of her modelling. The return half of the ticket remained unused.

Despite the anorexia, which took several years to overcome, she has no regrets about Paris. However, she says now: "I decided I preferred golf, where you are judged on how you score." It was also something she could control. It was her judgment that mattered. Not someone else's.

Strong-willed in the extreme and highly intelligent, Alfredsson took herself to college in the United States, to San Diego, where she caused mayhem. She had an affair with the soccer coach — "very illegal, but isn't love more fun that way?" was the student's unrepentant assessment — and was suspended twice for insubordination. She also got a degree in international business — "do you think I'm stupid or something?" — and an advanced golfing education that helped her enormously when she turned professional.

Leo Cuellar, the soccer coach, who played more than 100 times for Mexico, is Alfredsson's fiancé, a long-suffering soul and a calming influence. He has helped her understand that a bad round is not the end of the world and, though he is no golfer, he has learnt to know the game and Alfredsson's swing in particular. His experience of competing and coping at the highest level makes him an invaluable ally, the cool Latin, the perfect foil for the volcanic Swede.

Alfredsson likes to show her feelings on and off the course and hates people who react in the same way whether they have taken ten or holed a 30-foot putt for a birdie. "They make you fall asleep," she said, but after she won the Nabisco Dinah Shore, a major championship and her first United States victory, in 1993, there were criticisms from the stoic school.

They (the stoics, who find the Alfredsson approach amazing, contrary to all the rules) felt the Swede, the 1990 Weetabix Women's British Open champion, needed to be calmer, quieter, to play better, to fulfil her huge potential. In 1993, only her second year on the US tour, she was fifth on the money-list, the leading European, with more than $400,000 (about £265,000). They saw her, the third-round leader, squeeze herself through an emotional wringer at the US Women's Open last year and lose out to Lauri Merten at the last gasp. "She'll have to change her attitude," they said.

Alfredsson, who has a thoughtful, sensitive side that is perhaps too often overshadowed by the arrogant, aggressive side, tried to tone things down but it was not her way. She claimed she felt like a zombie and quickly gave it up, preferring to be true to her nature.

And she has been very successful being herself. She turned professional only in 1989 but has won six times in Europe — the British Open in 1990 was her first victory, an early indication that she was a big-time player — and twice in the United States. She was in her competitive element, and unbeaten, when Europe smashed and grabbed their way to the Solheim Cup at Dalmahoy two years ago and she is Europe's No 2 this year, behind her friend and compatriot, Liselotte Neumann, despite playing mainly in ther United States.

Alfredsson is used to things going her way, except at the US Open, the prize she covets above all others. This year, she dominated for the first two rounds and more, rewriting the championship scoring records before adding to the list of great Open collapses with rounds of 76 and 77.

It baffled her but she put it down to fate and astounded those who knew nothing of her native resilience by winning in Boston the next week. It was typical of Alfredsson, with her champion's streak of bloody-mindedness.

However, a few days later, she dismissed her caddie, who opined that she was the best striker of the ball he had seen but the worst putter. She told him that he had lost her two US Opens, conveniently forgetting that one of the reasons she loved golf was because she was the one in charge, that the scoring was down to her and that she was the one missing the putts. The bucks stop with her, which she loves, but so does the buck, which is less fun.

Carner, who realised long ago that you go to hell your own way, thinks Alfredsson, bust-ups notwithstanding, is at present a little too subdued, too quiet, but she remains the antithesis of the dull and boring Swede, and, as he reaches for his earplugs, Carruthers can give thanks for one thing: she is on our side.

Morrison has power to test heart of Hide

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT, IN HONG KONG

FRANK Bruno and Herbie Hide should come safely through their qualifying contests here tomorrow and meet each other in London in the spring. They have picked their own opponents. Hide has chosen Tommy Morrison, knowing him to have a vulnerable chin, and Bruno has decided to take on Ray Mercer, believing him to be little more than a punchbag.

If Bruno and Hide win, they will certainly make a lot of money when they meet each other, but it is unlikely that their reputations will be enhanced. Mercer and Morrison, both former holders of the World Boxing Organisation title that now belongs to Hide, have been having personal (alcohol-related in both cases) and managerial problems and have been performing badly in their last couple of contests, being held to draws by little-known journeymen.

Those who consider Hide a pretender and Bruno a manufactured contender might even go so far as to say that Hong Kong is the right and proper place for this Britain v USA tournament, being a city known for cheap imitations of high-class items.

Whatever the deficiencies of the Americans, however, at Bruno's and Hide's level they are capable of causing serious damage. Even if Bruno's bout will almost certainly tell us nothing new, other than whether he should retire, Hide's contest could answer some questions: about his chin, punching power and heart — particularly heart.

He has never met a heavyweight as strong as Morrison. Although Mercer has beaten Morrison, knocking him out, Morrison is in reality the more dangerous opponent, being the harder puncher and more lively around the ring.

Mercer, having a sound chin, tends to come forward regardless and is a walking punchbag, which will suit Bruno. But it will be interesting to see what happens if Mercer brushes Bruno's blows aside and lands one of his own. George Francis, Bruno's trainer, says he has been showing Bruno how to survive by holding or going down, a manoeuvre he has never been able to master, leaving himself wide open to crippling blows.

Hide: strong adversary

But Bruno's promoter, Mickey Duff, says he cannot believe Bruno will react differently if caught by a disabling blow. "He will never master that technique of going down," Duff said. "People's styles and thinking change but their nature never changes."

Hide's bout is a fascinating one. His trainer, Freddie King, says he will knock Morrison out. He will be too quick about the ring to be caught by Morrison's short punches. "Morrison's last two or three fights have been awful," King said. "I was surprised to see him put down by Ross Puritty." But if Morrison happens to catch Hide with one of his big punches, it is unlikely the champion will come back for more.

Morrison said that Hide was not experienced enough to get out of the way of his punches. "I feel Herbie is now where I was before my fight with Mercer. I was young and over-confident and didn't think I had to work too hard. That fight taught me a lesson. It was a wake-up call."

But Morrison's trainer, Tommy Vergetts, sounded a little downbeat, tired at having to keep his eye on a charge known for his drinking habits even a day or two before a big fight. "Since losing to Mercer, Tommy has been reluctant to let loose — even though he now has the skill to relax and explode," he said. "But if he does do that, it will be a short fight," he added.

Limited role in view for Molloy

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

SURBITON can take over the leadership of the National Hockey League from Old Loughtonians provided they at least draw with Indian Gymkhana at Feltham School in one of the three first division matches to be played tomorrow.

Although Surbiton have announced a full squad, Molloy, one of their main scorers, has a strained calf muscle, and may therefore play only in short spells as a substitute, or come on merely to take the corners. In addition, Sexton has back trouble.

The recovery of the full back, Surjit Kuller, from injury brings Gymkhana up to full strength and a win would make them joint leaders.

Bournville's attack will be slightly blunted by the absence of their Australian centre forward, Grummitt, who is unavailable for the trip to Trojans, who, like Bournville, have only one victory to their credit. The Hampshire club is not sure whether Ellis, who has a broken nose, will be fit to play at full back.

Hull, second from bottom of the table, can expect a hard match when they entertain Canterbury.

The England World Cup squad, training this weekend at Cardiff, will be playing Cannock today and not Wales, as previously planned.

Light at the end of the tunnel

SIMON BARNES
On Saturday

Welcome to the most depressing weekend of the year — worse even than the start of the football season. Yes, the bloody clocks go back tonight. This legal deprivation of daylight is an annual creator of soul-deep misery. I hate it, and so does everyone else. It is a deliberate worsening of the onset of winter: every 12 months, it brings about the year's little death.

Perhaps I had better oppose this on sporting, rather than on metaphysical, terms. Fair enough: that's an end to my chances of riding out in the afternoon. Too dangerous to hack home in the half-light. Poor joggers, mad enough at the best of times, will pant their paths in ever-present danger on their evening runs.

Shall I turn back the clock?
Yeah... to 1966 love
GED

In fact, social and economic factors mean that the loss of the hour deprives the country of 35 per cent of its time for outdoor leisure activity. Gardening, walking, cycling, golf, fishing, football, tennis, rugby. Well, who wants a sane and healthy nation, anyway?

There is hope, albeit of a limited kind. For there is in existence one of those snowball-in-hell schemes called a private member's Bill which, if passed, would bring back the hour: 140 MPs are said to be supportive, and the chances in the ballot are at least reasonable. The campaign for the hour, Daylight Extra Now, is backed by the Sports Council, as well as the RSPCA, CBI, BMA, British Tourist Authority, Police Federation and Age Concern.

It would be a simple and necessary reform, if only to help me and my mare. William Hill offer a realistic 6-1 against the hour coming back by 1996.

Final outcome

You thought Ken Bates was acerbic, Ron Noades oppositional? A grim tale from Brazil tells us that these football club chairmen are mild men characterised by gentleness and self-restraint. The story concerns Gilson Raimundo da Veiga, the president of a club called Cse, in a place called Palmeira dos Indios. He was in impassioned discussion with a player, Cassio Barros Silva, who implored his president: "Give me back my freedom." The president interpreted this in eschatological terms. He pulled a gun from his drawer and shot his player dead. The president himself has vanished without trace.

Blood and law

Meanwhile, this column, this week like Webster, much obsessed by death, can report that a section of America is now exploring the sub-basement of popular taste. Outside the Los Angeles court-house where the O. J. Simpson hearing is taking place, hucksters peddle their wares. The case of Simpson, the football player charged with the murder of his ex-wife and a waiter, has prompted an explosion of memorabilia. The latest item is a rubber mask bearing the face of O. J. It comes complete with a bloodstained T-shirt that carries the legend: "I am innocent." Sales are brisk.

Game of risk

This week's grim theme continues with death threats to the *wives* of the coaches of college sports team, a tale inevitably from the United States. Dan Topolski never had this trouble, even at the height of his problems with the Oxford Boat Race crew. Carolyn Curry, wife of Bill Curry, the coach of the University of Kentucky football team, has been threatened with death. It is part of an increasing problem connected with public vilification of the coaches of losing teams. Radio phone-ins in particular are accused of whipping up hatred of football coaches. Most wives have long since given up going to games. Sandy Hatfield, the wife of the coach of the Rice University team, said: "It was difficult to hear bad things about Ken. They were unjustified, negative, vicious remarks. One time, I turned around to a guy and said: 'You happen to be talking about the man I love'." But what did the man reply, Sandy?

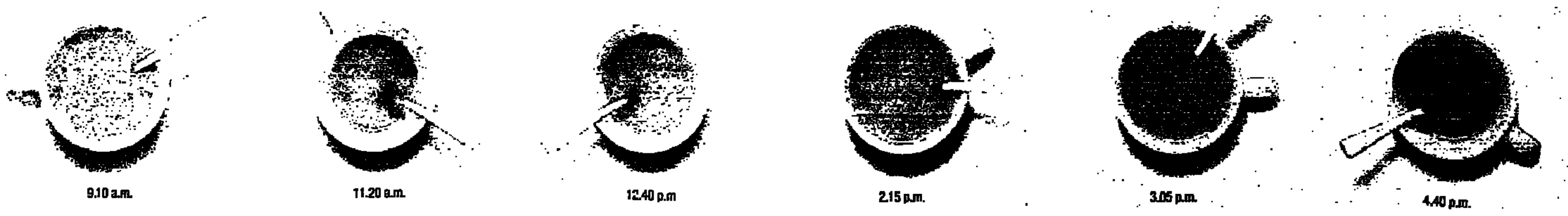
Zaniest scribe

Woody Allen (a man not without his own Websteresque obsession) has been filming at Belmont Park racecourse in New York. Apparently in his movie (rather Joyceanly known only as *Fall Project*) he is playing a sportswriter. After a lifetime of striving, Woody has at last found the perfect vehicle for the expression of self-obsession.

Vital statistics

Who are the European champions of sport? Sweden, of course, alongside Norway, with the Brits trailing in a miserable ninth. These facts are brought to me by the irrefragable forces of the Great Swedish Stats Machine. They head the league table with 37 per cent of the adult population being members of a sports club, tying for first place with Norway. After that, percentages are: Denmark 32, Finland 32, Switzerland 32, Austria 32, Luxembourg 32, Holland 32, Britain 22, Germany 22, Belgium 21, Ireland 18, France 18.

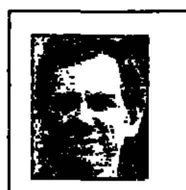
Our tools only stop working when you do.



THE BEST TOOLS YOU CAN LAY HANDS ON STANLEY

Funding inadequate for FA's belated initiative on drugs

Vaessen: cautionary tale


ROB HUGHES
Weekend View

The Football Association's initiative this week to launch out-of-competition testing as a pre-emptive action against so-called "social drugs" is a case of better late than never, better little than nothing.

There is apparently £140,000 in the FA kitty to combat the new evil, perceived from Lancaster Gate, of drug pushers who see young and gifted fledgelings of the game as youths with more money than sense. The FA programme on "drug testing and education" is designed as a deterrent and it is needed.

Football itself has something to answer for. The FA's own doctors have, in the past, introduced youth team players to the seemingly innocuous habit of taking sleeping tablets before important games. It happened, certainly, to the generation that Trevor Francis, now the manager of Sheffield Wednesday, was a part of when England bestrode the world youth competitions at the start of the Seventies. Mogadon was handed to those players routinely to calm their nerves in order to get a good night's sleep; the doctors prescribed it.

Nobody apparently saw this, or the similarly condoned use of painkilling drugs, as sinister, or envisaged the short leap in a youth's mind to taking other drugs when their "problems" mounted.

I have in mind Paul Vaessen. No Arsenal supporter of more than a decade will need reminding who he was. In 1980, at the age of 19, Vaessen, 6ft 2in and with immaculate timing in the air, came on as an Arsenal substitute in front of 66,386 Italians in Turin and outjumped Frank Stapleton and Roberto Bettega to head the only goal of a Cup Winners' Cup semi-final second leg.

It was his moment of fame. In what is a familiar tale today, Vaessen was introduced at that tender age because Arsenal were victims of success; they were playing five games in 11 days, and needed to push a young player in because of injuries, the wear and tear of first team players. Something equally, uncomfortably familiar, the professional foul from behind, began to take his career from him less than five months after that heady night in Turin.

Between the age of 19 and 21, Vaessen was operated on three times, unsuccessfully, for a damaged cruciate ligament. Arthritis, the doctors told him, had already set in, and he knew that arthritis had crippled his father's career as a professional at Millwall.

Heroin dependency set in as quickly as the arthritis. An old school friend offered him the drug to ease his withdrawal pangs from football, and for 18 months his parents knew nothing about it. His marriage, his finances, very nearly his life, were taken.

Vaessen was stabbed three times in a London street, the victim of a drug feud. Apparently he had been the go-between handing a "friend's" £200 to a dealer who took the money and never came back with the goods. "I was a fool," Vaessen told me. "I thought the smack would cheer me up, but nothing is worse than being hooked on heroin."

His mother, Maureen, had to try to cope with a son she had supported when, at 14, he argued with schoolteachers who tried to get him in off the playing fields to study. He already knew that, barring a drastic accident, he would play for Arsenal. "It's a wonder my Paul is walking on this earth," his mother said at her Docklands home shortly after he recovered from the knifing incident.

"He lost 40 pints of blood, but now that he is physically fit again it worries me to death the way he can't find his level or his meaning in life. He never cared for nothing more than his football."

That mother's tale, ten years ago, came at a time when Willie Pastrano, the former American boxing champion, also admitted to heroin addiction and commented: "They should rehabilitate sportsmen like Vietnam veterans: they should do it for drugs, alcohol, everything."

Alcohol as a drug: the FA has recognised its wretched potential, because alcohol has been added to the list of prohibited drugs for which the new random testing, even down to schoolchildren at the age of nine, is intended. Vaessen, though he completed a career of only 22 full games, ten substitute appearances and six goals in three seasons racked with pain and doubt, should be an object lesson to the children the FA is now trying to reach, trying to scare with its drugs and education project. So should the likes of Jimmy Greaves and George Best, career's damaged by drink, or the more extreme example, Garrincha, killed at 49 by alcoholism.

Today, when Bettega is president of Juventus and Vaessen's whereabouts are unknown, the iniquity of drugs on the streets, drugs too close for comfort even in a game where stimulants are not rife, requires more than £140,000 worth of attention. That sum, after all, would not buy the big toe of a half-decent centre forward.

Dublin relishing new challenge

Fresh start pays for the striker sent to Coventry

By Oliver Holt

PHIL Neal, the Coventry City manager, shook his head. Dion did not do interviews. Not on Fridays, anyway. "No chance," he said. "It disrupts his rhythm." Dion sidled in from the car park, baseball cap pulled on backwards over his shaven head. "Tell him," Neal said to him, and turned on his heels.

Dion Dublin stopped and leaned against a door frame. He did not seem to mind. After two years locked away in Manchester United's reserves, he is getting the star treatment again, fussed over by his manager, busy with photo shoots. Seven goals in eight games since his move to the Midlands from Old Trafford have thrust him firmly back into the limelight and eased Coventry away from the lowermost rungs of the FA Carling Premiership.

He leaned there and joked with the YTS boys scurrying in and out of the boot-room. Neal made him captain after his first game so he could lead from the front, cajole and battle. The other players respect him, but they like to tease him about his former club. "Just because you played for Manchester United," they always start.

Dublin's career at United was over almost before it began, his leg broken in only his fourth match for the club. Alex Ferguson signed Eric Cantona soon afterwards and the team never looked back. Dublin watched from the stands and started only one more game, the FA Cup semi-final against Oldham Athletic at Wembley last season.

His £2 million transfer fee was greeted with incredulity by most. United had paid half that when they persuaded Cambridge United to part with him, and his time on the sidelines had done little to dispel the belief that he was a limited, beanpole striker, a beneficiary of John Beck's long-ball shock tactics.

This season, though, he has been a revelation, forging a fine partnership with Roy Wegerle, displaying a neat touch that belies his height, full of deft lay-offs and a master at holding the ball up and supplying it to his team-mates. He is capable of intimidating defences, too. "He looks like Marvin Hagler," a former colleague at Cambridge United said, "but he's better in the air."

He is modest and laid-back.

'It has been great. Everything I touch seems to go into the net'

The Manchester United experience, it seems, was not all bad. "I enjoyed it very much at Old Trafford," Dublin said. "It was exceptional, a pleasure to be there, working with all those world-class players. Unfortunately for me, the broken leg came along. I've thought about what might have been if that had not happened, but that's life. What could the manager do? He couldn't change a winning team. I just had to accept it.

"I was happy to be part of those two years. It could have been a team that did nothing and won nothing, but everybody made me feel part of the success. I learned a hell of a lot there, just watching players like Mark Hughes and witnessing his determination and the way he finishes. Even at the beginning of this season, I wasn't keen to get away."

Dublin, 25, who scored 52 goals in 156 league games for Cambridge and was the unwitting cause of Howard Kendall's resignation from Everton when the board blocked the manager's attempts to sign him, was spirited from a team gearing up for another championship challenge to one already struggling and being pulled apart by the tug of war over the Ireland defender, Phil Babb.

But Dublin breathed new life into Coventry and morale at the club is high again. Yesterday, when the coach, Mick Brown, disappeared into the changing-rooms to get some bibs, Dublin led the rest of the team in a dash to hide behind a shed so that Brown was confronted with an empty pitch when he returned.

"It has been a great start," Dublin said. "The lads have taken to me very easily and everything I touch seems to go into the net. It has been easy to settle in because, with no disrespect to Coventry, the expectations are not quite as high here. At Old Trafford they expect you to win every game and every championship. Here, the fans want their team to play well, to enjoy the season and not get relegated. It is nice not to be under such intense pressure."

Dublin will continue his Premiership return against Arsenal at Highbury tomorrow, relishing the chance to play against Tony Adams. If he keeps scoring at his present rate, though, the Coventry supporters may start setting their sights a little higher.

RICHARD KILLE

Dublin will be looking to extend his prolific recent record at Highbury tomorrow

Dynamic duo of Blackburn raring to get United in their sights

Peter Ball analyses the different skills that have combined to produce the potent *scoring partnership of Shearer and Sutton*

The challenges are coming thick and fast for Manchester United's central defenders at the moment. On Wednesday they had to cope with Romario; tomorrow they face the most prolific partnership in the FA Carling Premiership, Shearer and Sutton.

If Romario, the player of the World Cup, represents the skill and sophistication of the Latin game, Shearer and Sutton have the Anglo-Saxon virtues writ large. They are the classic English front players — strong, brave, powerful.

They are also good goalscorers, with 19 between them in 13 games together, Sutton taking the joint total to 20 with a goal against Birmingham City, a match Shearer missed. Alex Ferguson may reflect that they might have been the English front players to help United, but Shearer preferred to join Blackburn, and Ferguson declined to meet Norwich's asking price for Sutton. It is a thought that may yet haunt him if they carry on in their present vein.

"Now Blackburn have got someone in Sutton who is benefiting from all the hard work that Shearer does," Neil Ruddock testified after Liverpool were taken apart by them last week. "He's getting on to the end of Shearer's hard work and vice versa, so it's obviously a very significant partnerhip."

At first glance, their success might not seem that extraordinary. Last season Shearer pursued Andy Cole, the leading scorer, all the way in spite of starting the season injured. In the end, he claimed 34 goals in 49 games, six of those games as substitute.

By comparison, Sutton was quite subdued, with 28 goals in 53 matches, still a more than respectable return for a young player in his first full season after being converted from centre half to a striker by his then manager, Mike Walker.

Yet two such regular goalscorers might not have been the ideal recipe for a partnership. Generally successful pairs are different: Beardsley and Cole; Dalglish and Rush, or tomorrow's opponents, Hughes and Cantona.

Shearer is the stronger, more direct, Sutton the more skilled with his back to goal. Yet, essentially, they are similar players. It does not seem to be a problem.

"They are two good players, which doesn't necessarily mean that they are going to play well together," Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, observed, "but the facts speak for themselves." Until now, Shearer had been the more prolific. This season, however, with 12 of their 20 goals, Sutton is leading the way, an outstanding performance for an inexperienced player ata new club who might have been weighed down by his £5 million transfer fee. Instead he has thrived.

"He has done well here, obviously, and his goals reflect that," Dalglish said, "but apart from his goals his overall play and the way he works has been outstanding.

"It's probably easier to settle here because most of the lads who are playing have been new boys over the last few years, so they help each other. But he's done particularly well. He's a strong enough person to handle the transfer fee and he has enough support here anyway to handle it," he added.

Sutton, himself, has been full of praise for the help Shearer has given. "Alan has taken a weight off my shoulders at the club," he said. "I find I'm getting in a lot of spaces where he'd probably have been, because he maybe is being more tightly marked.

"His contribution has been excellent all season. He's set up quite a few goals for me. He is a goalscorer, but his contribution to the rest of the team and bringing other players into the game is superb."

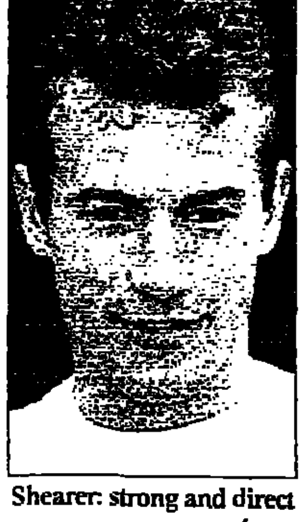
Shearer's all-round contribution has raised questions as to whether he has had to adapt to fit in with Sutton. "I might have set up one or two more than I did last season, but I'm certainly not changing my game for Chris," he said.

And for all their success so far, not everyone is completely convinced. "I'm not sure that they combine together that much yet," was Paul McGrath's immediate response after coming up against the pair at Ewood Park last month. A recap of Blackburn's three goals made him think again but the suspicion remained — and Shearer, for one, still believes the partnership can produce more than it is at the moment.

"You mustn't let goals overshadow performances, and sometimes they can, can't they?" he said. "Because we've got goals it doesn't mean we've been playing well as a partnership.

"Part of our job is to score goals but there is more to our game than scoring goals. It's early days yet, we both missed pre-season, we've only had a dozen games together, so it's working reasonably well and we're both quite happy with it — but there's more to come."

Sutton: more skilled


Shearer: strong and direct

French taking no chances on safety

From David Miller in Monte Carlo

IT IS not only the English who have been involved in recent disasters at football matches. The French, who suffered the collapse of a temporary stand in 1992 at Bastia in Corsica, killing 15 spectators and injuring over 2,000, are taking no chances for the 1998 World Cup.

Roland Chatard, the French expert on sports safety with the Council of Europe, revealed yesterday, at the 28th Congress of the General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) some of the precautions already in hand, which extend way beyond the compulsory all-seat stadia enforced by Fifa and, from 1996, by Uefa.

The French police are already being specially trained, in the light of crowd violence experienced to a greater or lesser extent at the last four European championships, the 1990 World Cup in Italy and, notably, at Heysel in 1985.

"We are particularly looking at ways of making control psychological instead of repressive," Chatard said. "In recent years, repressive police action has tended to make crowd behaviour worse. We are studying examples in Britain and elsewhere of using stewards, in civilian dress, prior to the necessity of police action."

The removal, rather than installation, of provocative barriers, as in England, is contemplated. Colour-coded signs will direct ticketholders, with computerised ticketing to assist control inside and outside stadiums.

Additionally, the French organising committee will collaborate with local authorities to provide alternative entertainment adjacent to matches, to occupy those unable to obtain or afford tickets. Special courts, and judges, will ensure immediate trial of offenders arrested at matches.

Since 1946, with the Bolton Cup-tie disaster, in which 33 died, more than 900 spectators have died worldwide at football, the worst disaster being 350 at an Olympic qualifying tie at Lima Peru in 1964.

"We are all guilty — or rather we are all responsible," Chatard said. "This includes architects who design the stadia, the press, even public address announcers — not just football administrators, the referees, police, firemen and First aid."

Announcers are a worryingly ignored element. At key cup ties in Europe, I have witnessed inexcusably provocative encouragement of home supporters that inflammed the emotions of rival spectators. In this, the English have been as guilty as any.

Walker faces stern test from Cole

By Peter Ball

DES Walker leads Sheffield Wednesday against the unbeaten FA Carling Premiership leaders, Newcastle United, this afternoon at St James' Park with an FA charge for misconduct hanging over him. Walker learnt yesterday that the FA has acted over his head-butt on Simon Milton seconds after the final whistle at Ipswich last Sunday.

It was an uncharcterisic action by Walker, whose record hitherto had been virtually unimpeachable. "He had been booked only five times in his career, and this was his first sending-off, a remarkable record for a defender," Trevor Francis, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, said.

The incident made for an unfortunate ending to Wednesday's second successive win, and Francis will hope that it does not affect Walker on what is likely to be a busy afternoon for his defence against the leaders, with Andy Cole, in particular, posing a threat.

Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, was unrepentant yesterday at continuing to play Cole despite his shin-splint problems. "Andy is top scorer in all competitions, and that's his answer to the critics," Keegan said.

"He is still getting goals, and the team is benefiting from his contribution. He wants to play and, as long as he isn't doing himself any damage, I will play him. We have consulted the medics all along the line."

Newcastle, who will equal a club record of 17 matches unbeaten if they avoid defeat today, are without Lee and Venison. Those problems pale in comparison with those of the champions, Manchester United, who lose May, Giggs and Parker for the match of the weekend, their visit to third-placed Blackburn tomorrow.

After his omission for tactical reasons from the match against Barcelona on Wednesday, Bruce returns, as does Cantona. McClair is also available. Keane and Parker are now booked in for operations after the visit to Barcelona on November 2.

Giggs's injury, however, is worse than feared. "He will be pushing it to be fit for the game in Barcelona," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said yesterday.

Ferguson hopes that the importance of the match will prevent his side suffering the usual post-big European match syndrome. "It is important to us that playing Blackburn is now an important game to Manchester United," Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, said.

With an unbeaten run of 11 matches in the Premiership, Nottingham Forest travel to meet Aston Villa, who await fitness tests on McGrath, Bosnich and King, who suffered heavy colds after their trip to Trabzon. Dwight Yorke, who was not one of the three foreigners selected in Turkey, returns.

The most critical match of the weekend in London is at Crystal Palace, where Everton will be without Dave Watson as they search for their first win of the season.

Wright sortie secures Arsenal's return

By Russell Kempson

AS the Brondby players left the pitch at their smart, compact stadium in Copenhagen on Thursday night, the public address system blared out "Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life". The Brondby supporters, clinging to any sliver of hope, made an unconvincing attempt at singing along before trudging off into the bitter suburban cold. They knew their fate; the European Cup Winners' Cup was beyond their grasp.

Though only at the halfway stage of the second-round tie, with the return leg at Highbury on November 3, Arsenal's 2-1 victory on a wild and windy evening in Scandinavia should be ample to see them through to the quarter-finals. Ebbe Skovdahl, the Brondby coach, admitted as much; George Graham, the Arsenal manager, also knows it, even if Anglo-Danish diplomacy prevented him from confirming the obvious.

Ian Wright's purple patch of at least one goal in each of his last nine matches continues unabated. His eighteenth-minute header, allied to an opportunist effort from Alan Smith two minutes later, was enough for Highbury's experienced Eurocrats already to consider making their last-eight reservations.

Mark Strudal's 53rd-minute reply was merely a cosmetic exercise in home fervour. Rarely do Arsenal relinquish such advantages. One black spot, however, was the booking of Stefan Schwarz, the Sweden midfield player, and he will sit out the second leg.

As Arsenal justifiably preen themselves at a job, albeit only half of it, well done. Chelsea's chances of further progress hang precariously after their 0-0 draw with FK Austria at Stamford Bridge, though history will support their cause in Vienna in a fortnight — no Austrian side has eliminated an English club from European combat.

هكذا صدر الأصل

RUGBY LEAGUE 45
WEMBLEY WAVES FAREWELL TO MAL MENINGA

SPORT

SIMON BARNES 46
SEEKING SOLACE AS THE HOUR OF DARKNESS DESCENDS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22 1994

Swedish pair earn first point for Europe at The Greenbrier

STEVE MUNDAY/ALLSPORT

Davies, left, and Nicholas celebrate winning the 1st in their match against Andrews and King on the first day of the Solheim Cup at The Greenbrier yesterday

Nilsmark sparks cup challenge

FROM JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

THE Europeans were making a fight of it as the first day's foursomes in the third Solheim Cup reached their conclusion at The Greenbrier here yesterday. The Americans struck early when their leading pair of Dottie Mochrie and Brandie Burton comfortably beat the leading Europeans, Liselotte Neumann and Helen Alfredsson, by 3 and 2 in the opening match.

The Americans surprisingly lost this trophy two years ago, when it was played at Dalmahoy, outside Edinburgh, and the wise money was predicting that they would not lose it again. However, of the four remaining matches, Europe won one, held a narrow lead in another and were behind in the other two. This suggested that the European team, captained by Mickey Walker, was going to be more of a handful for the strong Americans than had at first been thought.

Low cloud blanketed the course early in the morning and play was delayed for half an hour. The scene at this famous West Virginia resort was rather gloomy and reminiscent of many an autumn day in Britain. Soon, though, the sun appeared to burn the cloud off and reveal a day as clear and crisp as is normally found many thousands of feet up in the Alps.

It is accepted wisdom in team matches such as these that the first hole is very important. Both captains had stressed the importance to their players of making a good start. In this respect, the two teams were perfectly balanced after all five matches had completed the 368-yard par-four 1st. Three matches had been halved, the Americans won one and the Europeans won one.

The opening birdie by Tammie Green and Kelly Robbins, who were playing third against Dale Reid and Lora Fairclough, was matched by the 15-foot putt that Laura Davies sank after a wonderful second shot by her partner, Alison Nicholas, in their match against Donna Andrews and Betsy King.

Davies and Nicholas, the anchors in the European team, who have lost only one match of the four they have played in the past two Solheim Cups, were in the surprising position of fourth pair. It was a tactical ploy by Walker, who was trying to out-think her opposite number, JoAnne Carner. "I put them there because I thought that JoAnne would expect me to put them out first," Walker explained.

It did not take long for the benefit of their experience to pay off. At the opening hole Nicholas punched a shot out from under a fir tree. It was one of the few occasions when her relative lack of height might have been to her advantage. She hit the ball so accurately it skirted a yawning green-side bunker and hit the hole. The shot not only brought a grin of approval to Davies's face but also caused Andrews and King to show their appreciation by clapping.

This was a match that meant an awful lot to Europe and the visitors went further ahead at the 3rd, only for Andrews to chip in from off the green at the short 4th after King's tee shot had missed the putting surface. On the 6th, King played a wonderfully deft downhill putt from 30 feet to guarantee the Americans par. But then Davies matched it, for her and Nicholas to remain one up, by holing from two feet after she had deliberately played short of a green that tilted dramatically forward in order to give Nicholas an uphill approach shot.

The Americans levelled the match on the 8th but Davies and Nicholas went one up again on the 11th. On this 140-yard short hole, Nicholas hit her tee shot to seven feet. But once again the Americans got back to level and won the next hole.

One of the spectators watching the match was Sam Snead, who moved along behind the ropes in his electric buggy. The back of the driving seat contained the words "Sam Snead, Golf Professional Emeritus". The back of the passenger seat was labelled "Meister" and occupied by Snead's golden retriever. It was questionable who attracted more attention — 82-year-old Snead or the friendly dog who sprawled across both seats when Snead moved out of the cart to watch play.

Much was expected of the Swedish pairing of Catrin Nilsmark and Annika Sorenstam. Sorenstam is the sixth foreign player in the past seven years to be named LPA rookie of the year. They faced the difficult American partnership of Beth Daniel and Meg Mallon. The Americans took the lead as early as the 2nd, when Nilsmark nearly drove into an artificial lake, and moved further ahead when they won the 8th as well. The Swedes then mounted a significant fightback and took the 9th and the 11th to level the match, and then had a one hole lead on the 17th.

Nilsmark was the heroine for the Europeans. As they fought back she holed putts of 12 feet and seven feet on the 16th and 17th. Then came her real test. Mallon had sunk a 12-footer for a par on the long 18th and it was left to Nilsmark to hole from three feet for Europe's first point. There was never any doubt. The ball rolled smoothly into the middle of the hole.

SOLHEIM CUP DETAILS

RESULTS

United States names first

YESTERDAY: 5 foursomes: D Mochrie and B Burton bt L Neumann and H Alfredsson, 3 and 2; B Daniel and M Mallon lost to A Sorenstam and C Nilsmark 1 hole; T Green and K Robbins 1 down to D Reid and L Fairclolh after 15 holes; D Andrews and B King all square with L Davies and A Nicholas after 14 holes; P Sheehan and S Steinhauer 1 down to P Wright and T Johnson after 14 holes.

TODAY: 5 fourballs.

TOMORROW: 10 singles.

CARD OF THE COURSE

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	368	4	10	339	4
2	388	4	11	140	3
3	475	5	12	510	5
4	145	3	13	384	4
5	527	5	14	305	4
6	380	4	15	426	4
7	194	3	16	397	4
8	474	5	17	160	3
9	164	3	18	554	5
Out	3,115	36	In	3,215	36

Total yardage: 6,330 Par: 72

Neumann fails to make right splash

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES
IN WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

IF ANYONE was going to be cool, calm and completely collected in the early nerve-racking stages of the third Solheim Cup it would surely be Liselotte Neumann, arguably the leading player in the world on recent form.

The Swede, 28, from Finspang, and her compatriot and long-time sparring partner, Helen Alfredsson, were charged with leading the European team's defence of the trophy in the opening foursomes at The Greenbrier yesterday and both looked at ease, smiling at the noisy clutches of supporters waving European and Swedish flags.

By contrast, Dottie Mochrie and Brandie Burton, their opponents, paired together for the first time, slipped on to the first tee almost unnoticed, faces set and tense. Mochrie, nails painted their customary blood red, a colour that did not match her newly-dyed hair at all, gave a confident enough thumbs up when the US supporters managed to raise a welcoming cheer, but if anyone looked at home it was Neumann.

It was all a front, however. Alfredsson, revelling in the atmosphere from the start, hit a good opening drive but Neumann's second, with a short iron, was abysmal. She stood hunched over the shot for a long time and in the end plopped the ball feebly into a bunker to the front right of the green.

"I think it must have been in a divot," said Gilles Hennessy, whose team the Swedes are, having won his Hennessy Cup for the last four years between them. Neumann did redeem herself by holing from six feet for a par and a half, but the subsequent holes confirmed that if she had ice in her veins, it had made the blood run cold and she had seized up completely.

At the 2nd, she hit an inhibited drive, short and right, which at least afforded Alfredsson the opportunity to show off, hitting a majestic three-wood onto the green from at least 200 yards out, from a poor, wet lie, over water and a deep bunker.

The tension also affected Mochrie — she had a three-footer to win the 3rd and the putt did not even touch the hole — but it was not until the 6th that Neumann hit a shot that looked anything like her best. The first seven holes were halved and it was the European pair, unbeaten at Dalmahoy two years ago, who were doing most of the scrambling.

Golf being the game it is, they took the lead at the eighth, a par five of 474 yards bordering the railway line, Alfredsson rolling home a birdie putt of 25 feet.

Though Neumann holed some testing putts, it was the Americans who suddenly found form together, with three birdies in five holes from the 12th, to win all in a rush on the 16th.

There, it was Alfredsson who put the second shot in the lake by the green but it was the sight of Neumann, up to her ankles in water, that seemed to sum up her day. She made a splash all right, but it was not the kind she had had in mind.

Aggressive Malcolm wins Fletcher's approval

Malcolm: fired up

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

KEITH Fletcher, team manager of the England cricket side in Australia, yesterday supported claims by Devon Malcolm that he could "scare" Australia's batsmen during the forthcoming Ashes series.

Fletcher said that, in terms of speed, Malcolm was comparable to the great Australian fast bowlers, Dennis Lillee and Jeff Thomson.

Malcolm's last meeting with Australia, in the final Test of the 1993 series at the Oval, brought him a match haul of six for 170 as he helped England to victory.

"I took some wickets and really put the scare in you boys," was the quote attributed to Malcolm in Australian newspapers on Friday. "I could see it in the eyes for the first time. They all came out in helmets, guards and chest pads, and they were moving back, away from it," Malcolm said.

Fletcher said he welcomed Malcolm's aggressive attitude. "If talking like that motivates him, then that's OK," Fletcher said. "You've got to go out there feeling aggressive and confident. If you feel you'll get wickets you often will. I'm pleased Devon is feeling this way.

"He's a lot more consistent now. I feel he's reaching his peak and I hope he'll be there for the next two to three years. He's a strong lad, he's motivated and he wants to do well here."

Fletcher faced Lillee and Thomson at the height of their powers in 1974-75 in Australia, so he is in a good position to make comparisons between them, Malcolm and the other fast bowlers in the England squad — Darren Gough and Martin McCague.

"You can't compare our bowlers to Dennis for skill but you can compare them to Lillee and Thomson for sheer speed, especially Malcolm," Fletcher said. "This is the paciest attack we have brought to Australia since 1970-71 when we had Snow, Lever and Shuttleworth.

"Malcolm will be used as a strike bowler … in short bursts. But Gough and McCague can also act as spearheads. In fact, it's a good attack all-round because we have got Phillip DeFreitas and Craig White who should get on well, too."

England's senior batsmen, Graham Gooch, 41, and Mike Gatting, 37, gave a lead to the younger members of the squad yesterday by putting in some extra practice at the WACA ground in Perth.

"I had a 15-minute net on Thursday, which wasn't great, so I came down with Graham to have an early net to get into some sort of form and rhythm. The sooner you get that, the better," Gatting said. "I like to compete, and to do that I need to maintain my fitness. After all, I haven't come here for a holiday."

Crawley's task, page 44
Houghton's best, page 44

Sampras resigned to Laver reigning supreme

BY STUART JONES
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

ROD Laver will probably forever be the last man in tennis to claim the grand slam, the winning of all four major championships in the same year. The prediction was offered yesterday by Pete Sampras, widely considered to be the only player in the modern era capable of matching the feat.

His opinion, given during an exhibition tournament in Hong Kong, in which he has reached the semi-finals, is based on the surfaces that are more varied than in 1969, the second year of open tennis, when Laver ruled the world. He collected three of his four titles on grass. The French Open was staged on clay.

The Australian Open and US Open are now staged on hard courts but of a different composition. Sampras, appreciably the most complete player of his day, has within the last 13 months triumphed on three of the materials, but he does not believe the clean sweep is a realistic aim.

"I don't think it is possible," he pronounced. "To win four in today's game is very tough to do." At the beginning of the year, he set himself a target of one grand slam championship. He finished with two, the Australian Open and Wimbledon. Only the French Open has so far eluded him. His attempt to regain the US Open title in September was ruined by an ankle injury.

In winning eight tournaments at the start of the year, he established a record lead at the top of the world rankings. Having missed half a dozen events, his status is endangered but he expressed little concern. "It is how you do in the majors that counts."

He also insisted that a proposal to use softer balls at Wimbledon, an experiment which may come into effect next year, will have a minimal impact. "Grass is still the fastest surface in the world," he said.

The idea, put forward by the All England Club, could reduce the probability of matches at Wimbledon resembling serving contests. "It might help a little bit," Sampras argued, "but I don't think that you are going to see more breaks of serve."

Czechs close in, page 44

Fair play earns England extra cup place

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ENGLAND, Norway and Luxembourg have been awarded one additional place in the Uefa Cup next season as a reward for fair play, the executive committee of European football's governing body announced yesterday.

In a communique published after a meeting in Zurich, the committee said the three associations had "distinguished themselves on the field with sportsmanlike conduct". It is the first time that good behaviour has been so recognised.

England, whose clubs were banned from Uefa club competitions for five years after the Heysel Stadium disaster in 1985, had three teams in the first round of the Uefa Cup this season. Norway and Luxembourg had one each.

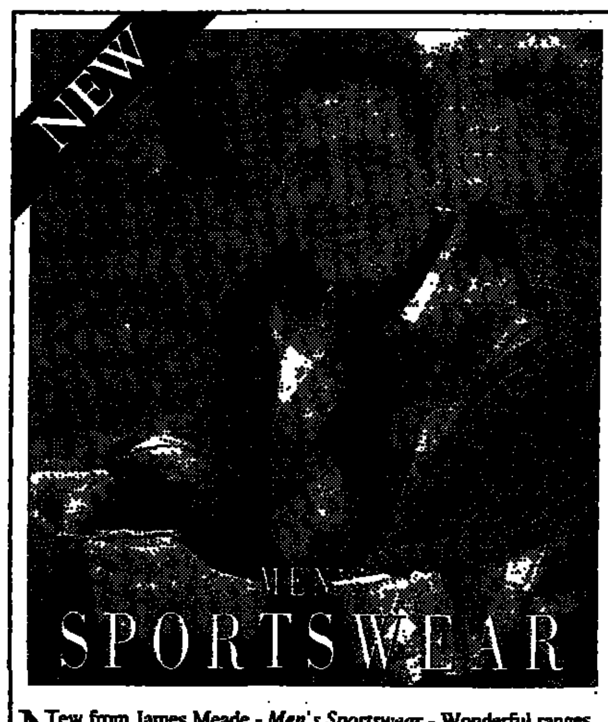
Uefa also decided that, after the 1997-98 season, League Cup winners may only be nominated for Uefa Cup inclusion through that tournament if the national association concerned has limited its domestic championship to a maximum of 34 matches. The decision affects England, who have 22 teams in the FA Carling Premiership, Spain and France, who have 20 teams in their first divisions.

The three affected countries have three seasons in which to comply with the rules and reduce their leagues to a maximum of 18 teams. The Premier League will be reduced to 20 clubs next season, but there no any plans for a further reduction.

Uefa is to press Fifa, the world governing body, for 16 places to be awarded to European teams in the World Cup finals in France in 1998. "The committee's view is that, in addition to the host country [France], which qualifies automatically, 15 other teams should represent Europe in world football's flagship competition," a statement said.

The number of teams taking part to the World Cup finals is to be increased from 24 to 32 in 1998 and Uefa, which had seven teams in the quarter-finals of the tournament in the United States this summer, wants three of the additional eight places. A decision is to be taken by Fifa at a meeting in New York next week.

David Miller, page 47
Weekend view, page 47
Dublin's lead, page 47



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GARDENING

How you can get the beautiful *Times* rose

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PLUS: The Kenwood controversy, page 8

BOOKS

Marcel Berlins on the new P.D. James whodunit

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PLUS: The Fine Press Book Fair, page 18

TRAVEL

Bali high life on the beach, and a touch of true love

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PLUS: Great British train journeys, page 26

OFFER

A chance to get four top CDs by Karajan

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PLUS: Free National Lottery token, page 3

WEEKEND

FRUITS OF THE FRUIT MACHINE

By Drew Smith

I have tasted the future of food. It looks the same. It tastes the same. It just happens to have had its genes messed with. The good news is that it might save the world. The bad news is that no one tells you when you are eating it.

It is possible you already have. Cheddar cheeses labelled as vegetarian are increasingly made with rennet that has been synthesised using genetic techniques. One sample of rennet, taken from the stomach of an anonymous cow and replicated, has gone on to be widely used in cheesemaking. Strictly, it is not vegetarian at all, but as it is no longer directly taken from the living animal it passes as such.

Even expert tasters are hard pushed to identify the difference between cheeses made with traditional animal rennets and those made with the genetically modified rennet. Only in certain farmhouse cheddars, where the ageing process is not quite the same, might an expert detect a variation of flavour in those made with the synthetic rennet. Nevertheless, many specialist cheesemakers are set against the whole idea of genetically engineered foods.

Vegetarian cheese is about the furthest most of us are likely to stray into the realm of genetically modified foods in the supermarkets. But the list of new foods queueing at the door of the Government's regulatory body, the Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes (ACNFP), is growing by the day. The committee has existed for some time to monitor the safety of all new foods. But the Government has made no specific provision for monitoring genetically engineered products or informing consumers when foods contain them.

Two yeasts have been approved but have yet to get into mass production; a tomato paste from a genetically engineered tomato is expected to be passed before January and could be in the shops next year (a similarly modified tomato is sold fresh as the Flavr Savr in America, but there are no plans to sell it as a fresh tomato here); and a vegetable oil made from genetically modified rape seed is being considered. In America, a company has applied to patent a genetically engineered decaffeinated coffee bean.

As an experiment, I blind-tasted six tomato pastes, one of them the much-publicised paste made from a genetically engineered tomato that the Co-op recently rejected as tasteless. The Co-op was right: it was a simple bland purée, whereas all the other examples had been formulated into paste recipes using sugars and acetic acid. Of these five, three were based on the same genetically engineered tomato and the other two were ordinary supermarket brands.

One of the supermarket brands was a clear winner: the others were much of a muchness, acceptable without being startling. The tiny alteration in

Continued on page 3, col 1

25

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8

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CHOICE

Planning an evening out or a day with the family? *The Times* critics select the best entertainment

DANCE

John Percival

GISELLE: Derek Deane, English National Ballet's director, premieres a new production of *Giselle* which transfers the action from a medieval Rhineland village to a Swiss hotel in the 1920s, with the heroine transformed from a simple peasant girl to a chambermaid. Fun and games! There are rumours of a real motor car on stage (well, some traditional stagings have used real dogs in the hunting scene, so what's new?). Charles Cusick Smith is the designer.
Palace Theatre, Oxford Street, Manchester ♿ (061-242 2503), Thursday 27, Friday 28 and Oct 29, 31, and Nov 1, 7.30pm; matinée Saturday, 2.30pm. Then touring to **Grand Theatre Leeds** and **Mayflower, Southampton**.

DANCE UMBRELLA: The middle week (out of three) in this year's festival of contemporary dance includes a return visit by Stephen Petronio's company from New York (Queen Elizabeth Hall, today and Sunday; also Brighton on Tuesday, Nottingham on Thursday). At the ICA, tonight and tomorrow, Javier de Frutos dances *The Rite of Spring* as a solo. At Riverside Studios there are new programmes by opera and theatre choreographers Kate Flatt and Sally Jacobs, to music by a Hungarian string band (Tuesday, Wednesday), and by Mark Baldwin featuring Lynn Seymour (Friday and next Saturday). And José Besprosvany's company from Brussels (Tuesday, Wednesday) and Philippe Trehet's from Le Havre (Friday) both bring new work to the Place Theatre.
QEH, London SE1 ♿ (071-928 8800), 7.45pm; **Gardner Arts Centre**, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton (0273 685861), 7.30pm; **Playhouse**, Nottingham ♿ (0602 419419), 7.30pm; **ICA**, The Mall, London SW1 (071-930 3647), 7.30pm and 9.30pm; **Riverside Studios**, London W6 ♿ (081-741 2255), 7.30pm; **Place Theatre**, London WC1 (071-387 0031), 8pm.

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

THE STREET OF CROCODILES: Théâtre de Complicité, still probably the most imaginative of British troupes, makes a rare visit to the West End with its wonderfully haunting version of autobiographical stories by Bruno Schulz, a Polish Jew murdered by the SS in 1942: aloof mother, eccentric father, and intimations of Hitler in the background.

Théâtre de Complicité

Whitehall, Whitehall, London SW1 (071-369 1735). Evenings, 7.30pm; matinée, Saturday, 3.30pm.

MOSCOW STATIONS: Just when London was forgetting that Tom Courtenay is a major actor, here he is again, complete with grieving voice and woebegone face. As Yeroyeev's toper, melancholic and spiritual explorer, he gives the performance of his career: funny, touching, profound.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (071-494 5085). Evenings, Monday to Saturday, 8pm.

● *More theatre, page 6*

FILMS

Geoff Brown

FORREST GUMP (12): "Hello, I'm Forrest. Forrest Gump". Not much of a conversation opener, but Robert Zemeckis's film uses such flat remarks as a springboard for a half-comic, half-sappy tour through four decades of American history. Technically, there is much to wonder at: computer-tinkering puts Tom Hanks's hero on the frontline of history with assorted Presidents and John Lennon. But the length (2hrs 22mins) brings problems: 45 minutes could be cut, and it soon dawns that the film, like the hero, will never develop.
Barbican ♿ (071-638 8891); **Empire** ♿ (0800 888911); **MGMs: Baker St** (071-935 9772), **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636), **Trocadero** ♿ (071-434 0031); **Phoenix** (081-883 2233); **Notting Hill Coronet** ♿ (071-727 6705); **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332).

PULP FICTION (18): Quentin Tarantino weaves together three tales of hit-men, molls, boxers and Mr Bigs into a bloated but entertaining homage to America's lurid crime fiction of the 1930s and 1940s. If the story elements are cut from stock, the writer-director of *Reservoir Dogs* gives them a dizzy spin no other current film-maker can match. An expensive production: witness the lavish set of the restaurant temple to pop culture, and the cluster of stars, which includes Bruce Willis, Uma Thurman and John Travolta.
Gate ♿ (071-727 4043); **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096), **Haymarket** (071-839 1527), **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279); **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666), **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098); **Phoenix** (081-883 2233); **Renoir** (071-837 8402), **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772); **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520); **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (071-792 3332); **Warner** ♿ (071-437 4343).

● *More films, page 6*

HENRIETTA BUTLER

English National Ballet during rehearsals for the premiere of Derek Deane's innovative production of *Giselle* (see Dance)

OPERA

Rodney Milnes

RHEINGOLD/WALKURE: Rumour has it that the backwoodsmen are frantically trying to return their tickets for the Richard Jones-Nigel Lowery staging of the first two *Ring* operas. So, if you can take seeing them in the wrong order, it will be worthwhile pottering down to Bow Street this afternoon — provided, that is, you can stomach a fresh, quizzical, utterly original reading of the dramas, one whose only fault is that the surface brilliance is in danger of obscuring the essential seriousness underneath. No reservations about Bernard Haitink's magisterial conducting, or some of the best Wagner singing to be heard today. The chemistry has worked.
Royal Opera House, Bow St, London WC2 (071-240 1066/1911). *Walküre* this afternoon, 4pm; *Rheingold*, Tuesday 25, 7.30pm. ♿

THE SECOND MRS KONG: The buzz from Sussex surrounding Glyndebourne Touring Opera's world premiere of Sir Harrison Birtwistle's new opera is growing positively deafening. At first sight a fantasy involving the eponymous gorilla, Vermeer's *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, the painter himself and assorted Hollywood types. Russell Hoban's libretto also digs deep into myth, especially the Orpheus and Eurydice story that has occupied Birtwistle for much of his life. Tom Cairns's production will apparently be a high-tech affair, the cast is led by Philip Langridge, Helen Field and Michael Chance, and Elgar Howarth is the conductor. Be there.
Glyndebourne, near Lewes, East Sussex (0273 813813), Monday 24, Thursday 27, 7pm. ♿

ROCK

David Sinclair

SUEDE: Talk about rolling with the punches ... Having recorded *Dog Man Star*, probably the best album released by a British group this year, Suede promptly lost the services of guitarist Bernard Butler, co-writer of all their songs and architect of the group's distinctive sound. But they have already recruited a replacement — a 17-year-old schoolboy called Richard Oakes — and without missing a beat they embark this week on a tour to promote the album. Complementing the charismatic stage presence of singer Brett Anderson will be nearly a dozen short films which the group has commissioned to accompany songs in the set.
Guildhall, Lancaster Road, Preston ♿ (0772 258858), Wednesday 26; **Hull City Hall**, Queen Victoria Square ♿ (0482 226655), Friday 28; **Octagon**, Western Bank, Sheffield ♿ (0742 753300), Saturday 29; **Free Trade Hall**, Peter Street, Manchester ♿ (061-834 1712), Monday 31; **Wolverhampton Civic Hall**, St Peter's Square ♿ (0902 312030), Tuesday, Nov 1; **Brighton Dome**, New Road ♿ (0273 709709), Thursday, Nov 3; **Corn Exchange**, Wheeler Street, Cambridge (0223 357851), Friday, Nov 4; **Music Hall**, Union Street, Aberdeen ♿ (0224 641122), Tuesday, Dec 13; **Middlesborough Town Hall**, Albert Road ♿ (0642 242561), Wednesday, Dec 14; **Barrowlands**, Gallowgate, Glasgow (041-556 5555), Thursday, Dec 15; **Guildhall**, West Marland Road, Southampton ♿ (0703 632601), Monday, Dec 19; **Newport Leisure Centre**, Kingsway, Gwent (0633 259676), Tuesday, Dec 20; **St George's Hall**, Bridge Street, Bradford ♿ (0274 752374), Wednesday, Dec 21; all shows 7.30pm.

Suede's Brett Anderson

BRYAN FERRY: Almost as renowned for his susceptibility to stage fright as he is for his lengthy bouts of creative block, Bryan Ferry is not a performer for whom anything comes easily. But as the former Roxy Music front man has matured, so the old tensions between style and content have been resolved in favour of a timeless, if rather bland, elegance. Not a man given to vulgar displays of exertion, it sounds as if he recorded his latest album, *Mamouna*, in his sleep. The music at these live shows — the first he has bestirred himself to do in this country since 1988 — will be immaculately polished, and the aesthetics just so. But while his fans may respond enthusiastically to Ferry's chilly appeal, the man himself will certainly not break sweat.
SECC, Finnieston Street, Glasgow ♿ (041-248 3000), Tuesday 25; **Aston Villa Leisure Centre**, Aston Hall Road, Birmingham ♿ (021-328 4884), Wednesday 26; **Manchester Apollo**, Ardwick Green ♿ (061-242 2560), Thursday 27; **Hammersmith Apollo**, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (081-748 8660), Saturday 29 and Sunday 30; all shows 7.30pm.

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

BERLIOZ AND CO: The BBC Symphony Orchestra's Berlioz series is already a source of great revelation about perhaps the most individual of the great 19th-century Romantic composers. Tonight, under Andrew Davis's direction, Berlioz's marvellous Byronic tone-painting, *Harold in Italy*, for viola and orchestra (Nobuko Imai the soloist) is coupled with another musical epic inspired by the English poet, but less often played: Schumann's *Manfred*. This comes in a new concert version by the ubiquitous Jeremy Sams.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London (071-928 8800), tonight, 7.30pm. ♿

SCHUBERT AND JANACEK: Probably the most unusual concert of the autumn. An extraordinary array of performers, including the brass section of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, the male voices of the New London Chamber Choir, a top pianist (András Schiff) and a distinguished German tenor (Rufus Müller) join forces for this joint celebration of Schubert and Janáček. The programme includes Schubert's Nonet for wind and Janáček's *Mladi* suite for wind, which the composer wrote in his seventies when rejuvenated by an infatuation with a woman 38 years younger than himself.
Barbican, Silk Street, London (071-638 8891), Monday 24, 7.30pm. ♿

Clive Davis

RAAG, RHYTHM AND RHYME: All praise to Jazz Services for arranging such an unconventional meeting of three distinctive talents. Representing the hard-driving blues and soul tradition, the much-travelled Carol Grimes is a singer who can be relied upon to enliven even the dullest material. Najma Akhtar has spent most of her short career seeking common ground between traditional Urdu ghazals, sinuous vocal improvisation and gentle pop melodies. The keyboard player Janette Mason is another restless spirit who has criss-crossed stylistic frontiers. The three will be indulging in a musical "conversation", assisted by Sami El Saldhid, Josefina Cupido, Inderjit Kalyana.
Band on the Wall, Swan St, Manchester ♿ (061-834 1786), Wednesday 26; **Bluecoat Arts Centre**, School Lane, Liverpool ♿ (051-708 9050), Thursday 27; **Waterman's Arts Centre**, High Street, Brentford ♿ (081-568 1176), Friday 28.

John Russell Taylor

THE CURRENCY OF FAME: The medal, often neglected these days as an artform, was by no means downgraded during the Renaissance, and some of Europe's leading artists, among them Dürer, Cellini and Alberti, were happy to accept commissions. Many of these splendours of Renaissance sculpture are there in miniature, and the portraits of some 200 European grandees, here displayed, range from the toadying to the amazingly unsparing. The convention is rigid, with the portrait on one side and a motif reflecting directly or indirectly on the qualities of the person depicted on the reverse. A rather unexpected show to see at the National Gallery rather than, say, the National Portrait Gallery, but the anecdotal interest of the subjects is regularly outweighed by artistic appreciation.
National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh (031-556 8921), Monday-Saturday, 10am-6pm, Sunday 11am-6pm, until Jan 8. ♿

ANA MARIA PACHECO: Brazilian, long-living and working in Britain, Pacheco has a cultural style all of her own. Most of her carvings are in wood and painted. They generally come in groups, usually with mysterious and slightly sinister intent. This new show features a brand new piece, *The Longest Journey*, in which the characters are ranged in a 32-foot boat and might be pathetic boat people or sea-borne marauders; it is hard to be certain which. Also the last major work, *Man and His Sheep* (1989), in which a dubious messiah leads his fearful followers through the wilderness, and a series of ten large new paintings, *In Illo Tempore*, of brilliant colour and hellish tone.
The Gas Hall, City Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham (021-235 1966), Monday-Saturday, 10am-5pm, Sunday 12.30-5pm, until December 31 (closed December 23-27). Admission £2.50, concessions £1.50. ♿

Richard Cork

THE YOUNG MICHELANGELO: Ever since they were acquired by the National Gallery in the 19th century, two so-called Michelangelo paintings have been disputed by the experts. Some claim that the master's followers produced them. But Michael Hirst, a leading authority, now argues that Michelangelo himself left them both unfinished in his youth. His scholarly views are expounded in the catalogue of the National Gallery's exhibition, which places at its centre the paintings in question: the *Manchester Madonna* and the *Entombment*. But visitors can make up their own minds, with the help of undisputed Michelangelo drawings, casts of his sculpture and related paintings by other artists of the period. A fascinating game of detection.
National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (071-839 3321), until Jan 15. ♿

THE SITWELLS: According to the disgruntled critic F.R. Leavis, the Sitwell siblings "belong to the history of publicity, rather than of poetry." But Edith, Osbert and Sacheverell were all, in their different ways, talented writers. And they had a genius for generating controversy in their attempts to support the avant-garde. The National Portrait Gallery survey brings together a host of evidence, ranging from their enthusiasm for the Russian Ballet to Severini's frescoes for Montegufoni, the family castle near Florence. Paintings by Vanessa Bell, Christopher Nevinson and William Roberts testify to their involvement with British art, and Wyndham Lewis's celebrated portrait of the enigmatic Edith remains impressive. But photographs of the indefatigable trio, above all by Cecil Beaton, reveal their continuous love affair with the camera's lens.
National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (071-306 0055), until Jan 22. ♿

LONDON

Chinese State Circus: Acrobats with traditional characters from Chinese folk lore.
Big Top, Shooters Hill Road, Blackheath, SE13 (081-856 1202), from Tuesday 25 until November 13. Times vary. Adults from £8, children from £6.

Dance the Day Away: Meet celebrity guests; and win prizes at the Nescafé Big Red Mug live radio show.
Virgin 1215, Golden Sq, W1 (071-434 1215) for tickets (please do not turn up without). Today and future Saturdays from 10am. Free. ♿

BEDFORD

Learn About Seed Dispersal (sycamore wings, etc) in this hands-on nature workshop.
Visitor Centre, Priory Country Park, Bedford (0234 364213). Tomorrow, 2.30pm. Children 50p. ♿

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

The Jungle Book: You've seen the film: now here's a giant puppet show in a re-creation of Kipling's classic.
Aylesbury Civic Centre, Market Square (0296 86009). Wednesday 26, 2pm. Adults and children £4. ♿

DORSET

Dinosaur Safari: Build your own computer dinosaur and walk your creation through computerised landscapes.
Dinosaur Safari Exhibition, Old Christchurch Lane, Bournemouth (0202 293544). Today and daily, from 9.30am-5.30pm. Adults £3.50, children £2.25.

HAMPSHIRE

Batik Half-Term Workshop: Contribute to a collaborative project and make your own batik to take away.
Portsmouth Arts Centre, Reginald Road, Portsmouth (0705 732236). Monday, 24 to Friday 28, 2pm. Adults £10, children £7.

Noah's Ark: Presented by Alix Booth's Puppets and accompanied by narrative from Genesis and hymns.
Winchester Cathedral (0962 840500). Today, 3pm, 7pm. Adults £5; children £3. ♿

LANCASHIRE

Granada Studios Tour: Wander on to film sets; watch live shows; and peep behind the screen.
Water Street, Manchester (061-833 0880). Today and tomorrow, Tuesday to Sunday, from 9.45am. Adults £11.99, children £8.99. ♿

OXFORD

The King's Secret: Bohemian fairy story about a singing barber and greedy king. Suitable for six to ten-year-olds.
Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford (0865 798600). Today, 10.30am. Adults £3.50, children £2.50. ♿

A pumpkin for Hallowe'en

SCOTLAND

Hallowe'en Horrors: Traditional fiendish fun and games, costume-/mask-making.
David Livingstone Centre, Glasgow (0698 823140). Tomorrow, 1.30pm. Adults and children £1. ♿

SUSSEX

Autumn Activity Weekend: Hands-on gallery (make a miniature timber house frame); steam threshing and ploughing; vintage tractors.
Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton, near Chichester (0243 811348). Today and tomorrow from 11am. Adults £4.20, children £2.10, family (two plus two) £11. ♿

YORKSHIRE

Captain Cook Road Races: To celebrate this local hero's 158th birthday. Suitable for seven-year-olds upwards.
Spa Booking Office, West Cliff, Whitby (0947 602138). Tomorrow from 1.30pm. Children £1.50.

Captain Cook Treasure Trail: *Meet at Pay Hut, Whitby at noon. Telephone as above.* ♿

JANE BIDDER

Ruth Gledhill joins parishioners and their pets in a service of blessing for animals

AT YOUR SERVICE

THE ANIMALS went in two-by-two, hamsters followed by guinea pigs, then small dogs and big dogs, labradors, greyhounds, Jack Russells and mongrels, processing into the world's oldest wooden church while Edwin de'Hamel, a chorister, played "Old Macdonald Had a Farm" on his flute in the churchyard. The rumbling bass of dogs growling as they became acquainted, and harmonics from birds in surrounding trees, were the flautist's accompaniment.

On our way into this oak-log church we passed the sad cross of Mr Edwards, a drover who drank a pint of beer while scything the grass, and scythed himself down in the process. In the churchyard perched a barn owl, buzzard, falcon and kestrel, near stalls where tea and cakes were offered.

In the weeks of the feast of St Francis, patron saint of those who care for the world of nature, the jovial, pink-faced, white-haired rector Tom Gardiner had arranged a service to bless his parishioners' pets. I sat next to Joan Price and her rare Tibetan spaniel Benjie, who licked my hand as Mr Gardiner began: "We live in a world where animals are greatly neglected. Appalling cruelties are inflicted on them. I know human beings inflict great cruelties on each other but it is so different with animals. They are so dependent on us."

The service was brief, and there was no need for the pooper scoops placed at the rear by the rector in case of emergency. "All creatures look expectantly to thee, and thou givest them their food at the proper time," read Colin McClennan, a local banker, from the rector's own translation of Psalm 104, while a large spaniel tried to leap from his pew and an even larger greyhound stood grandly on a pew seat and gave succour to all anthropomorphists by listening intently throughout.

In our confession, we asked for forgiveness "for the many ways in which we have been unjust and thoughtless to our fellow creatures who form part of your creation: have mercy on us for our lack of care, our unkindness, and selfishness, by which we have spoiled your creation and pained your most loving heart." Two children led us in prayers for the animal kingdom. "Dear father, hear and bless thy beasts and singing birds, and guard with tenderness small things that have no words." Instead of exchanging the sign of the peace, the rector told us to stroke the animals (Benjie the spaniel licked me back again), and as we did so, we each thanked God for the joy his creatures gave us, and for the character and glory of creation.

MARTIN BEDDALL

Paws for thought: a greyhound stands on a pew listening intently to the Rev Tom Gardiner

Sunday Worship: 9.30am

Service of Blessing for Animals at Greensted-juxta-Ongar, Essex, CM5 (0277 364694)

RECTOR: The Rev Tom Gardiner

ARCHITECTURE: The only wooden church to survive from Saxon times, with nave walls erected circa 845 AD. One of the most beautiful churches in Britain. ★★★★★

SERMON: "I put it to you that Goldilocks had no business eating the baby bear's porridge and breaking his chair. Animals have rights. She should not have been in there," said the rector. ★★★

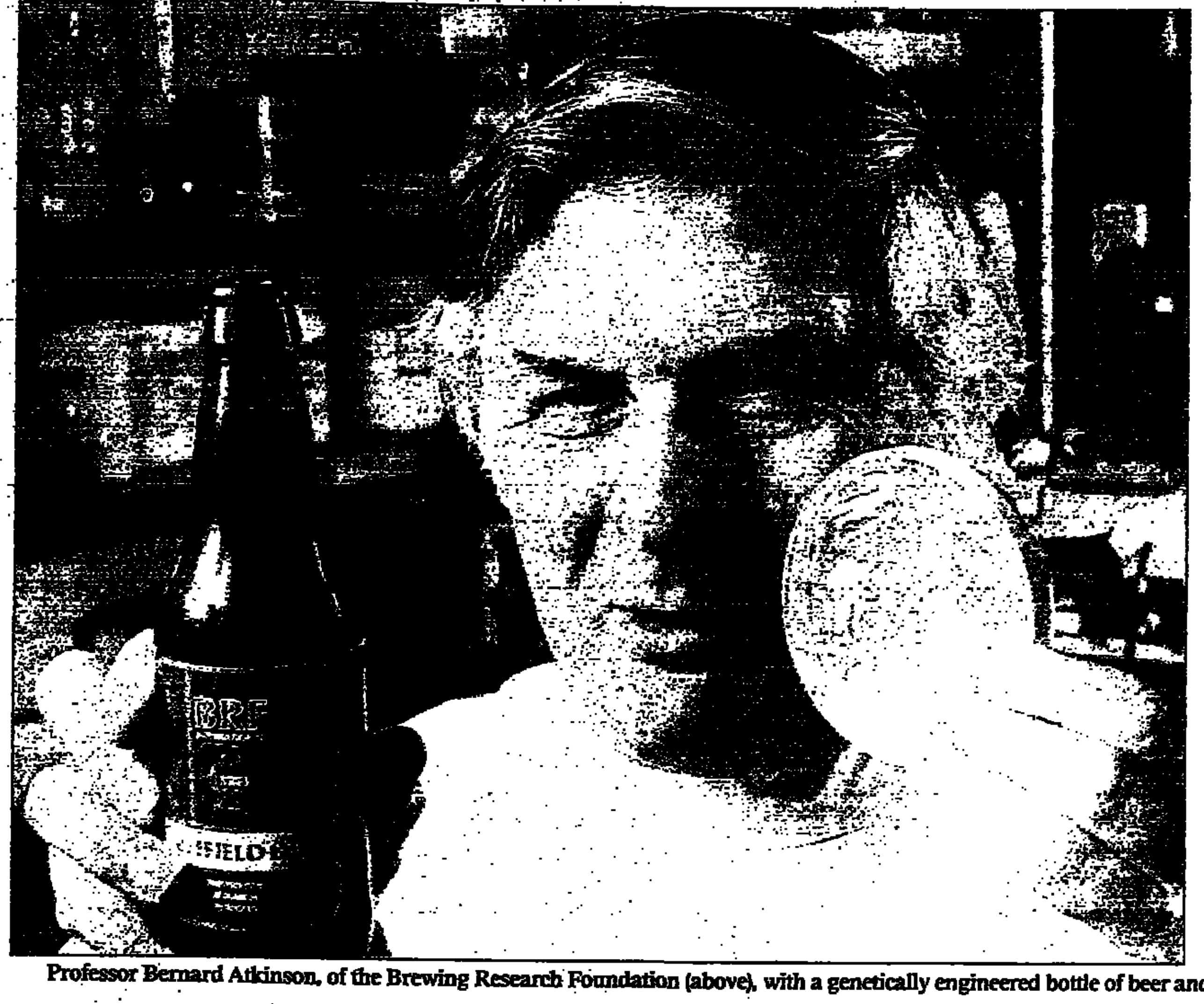
MUSIC: Fastest organist I have ever heard. The animals could not keep up. ★

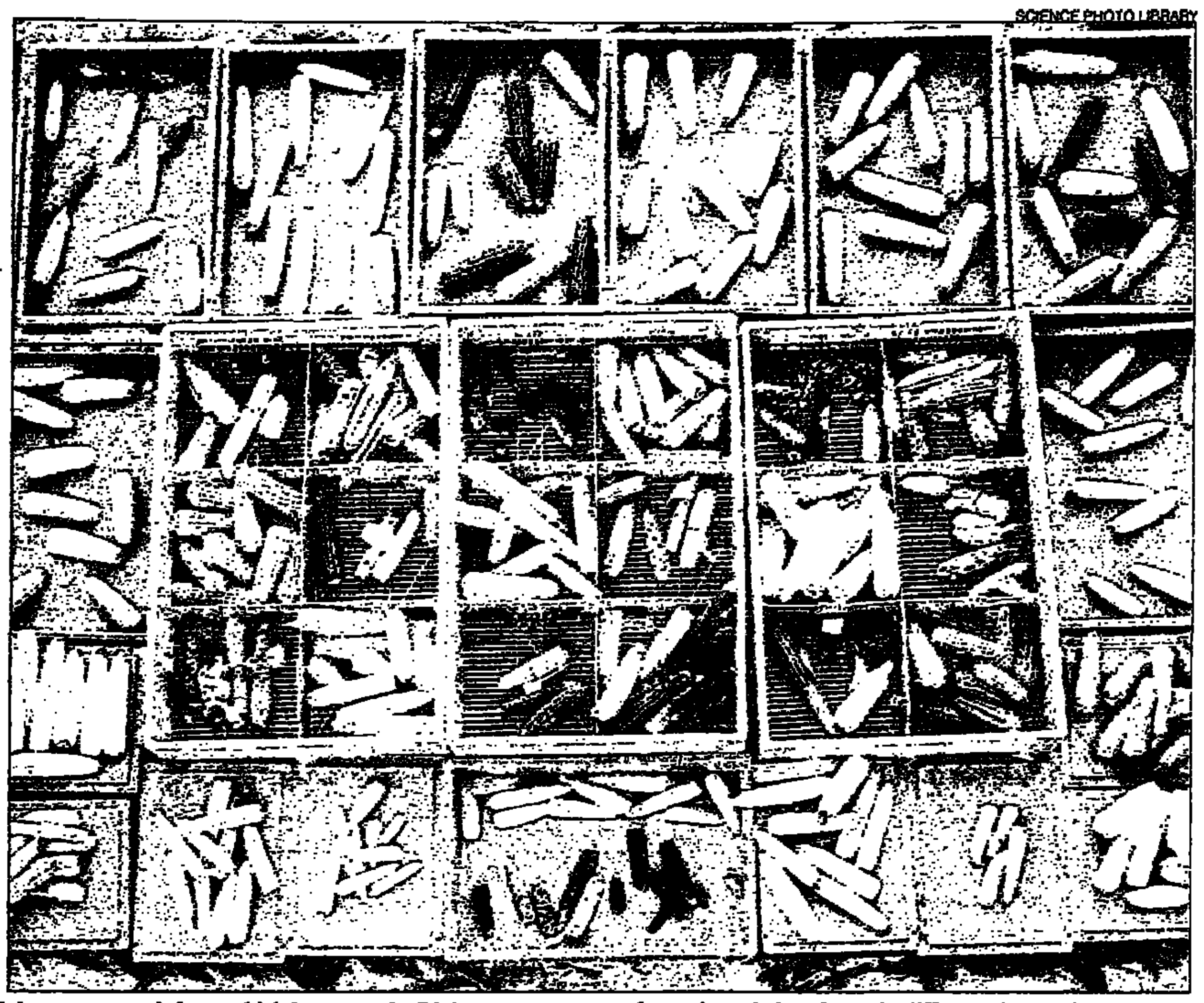
LITURGY: Adapted to include the animal kingdom. ★★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Bowls of water and dog biscuits along with the usual tea and coffee. ★★★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: The beasts of the field were at peace with us, and not even a dog barked. ★★★★

★ stars are awarded to a maximum of five





SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY

Professor Bernard Atkinson, of the Brewing Research Foundation (above), with a genetically engineered bottle of beer and the yeast growth from which it was made. Right: an assortment of genetic varieties of corn in different sizes and colours

Continued from page 1
the genetic construction was unrecognisable after processing. And, though one of the first people in Europe to taste a genetically engineered fruit, I can report that, so far, I have not sprouted huge ears, and my nose has not turned red.

As part of my taste experiment, the genetically engineered tomatoes were also made into a sauce. Again, the differences were imperceptible to the tongue. However, the genetically engineered tomato has a higher pectin content, so it tends to stick to anything it touches and does not slide down to the bottom of the plate like normal sauces.

The technique may be applied to any variety of tomato, and it is likely to be the first food to cross the genetic frontier to the shops. The vegetarian rennet is processed using genetics; the tomato is itself genetically engineered.

The process was developed in Britain by Zeneca, the seed and pharmaceutical division that split away from ICI last year, and Nottingham University. Their work has put them in the forefront of the genetic revolution. They identified the key point in the ripening of a tomato when the enzyme polygalacturonase breaks down the pectin in the cell walls and allows rotting to begin.

In fact, all they discovered was what home jam-makers have always known: that overripe fruit does not have enough pectin in it to set the jam. They took the gene for polygalacturonase out of the tomato — which, for the experiment, was an ordinary, traditional Ailsa Craig — cut it in half and put it back. The result was to slow down the speed at which the pectin breaks up. So it is not an unrottable tomato, it just takes a few weeks longer to break down naturally.

This breakthrough has huge commercial advantages. The market gardener has longer to pick his crop; supermarkets can get a longer shelf life; processors get a greater percentage of flesh, and the high pectin levels give a better viscosity, which is useful when making things like ketchup.

It is argued that the flavour improves because the tomato can stay on the vine longer and will not need to go into store to be ripened with the help of ethylene gas. The advisory committee on novel foods is expected to follow the lead of the American Food and Drug Administration and pass the tomato paste as safe.

Over the next few years, the committee expects to hear a number of applications from genetic engineers. Zeneca is looking to expand its research to other fruits, notably peaches, plums and bananas.

Other companies are making trials with other plants. In Hertfordshire, genetically engineered potatoes, which are said to be better textured for deep frying, are being grown for the crisp manufacturers; on Tayside, a Desirée potato has been given a gene from a pea to make it more resistant to pests; in Suffolk, Maris Piper potatoes are being genetically modified to fight potato blight. But it is in cereal and oil-rich plants that the most important developments are taking place. Another big breakthrough came with oil seed rape, again pioneered by Zeneca, this time with the University of Leuven in Belgium. As with many discoveries, it all seems so obvious afterwards. Why is it that some seeds don't wither and die in the ground? Answer: something protects them. Using a strain of radish, researchers realised that the seed had a natural resistance to fungus. They isolated the gene and transferred it to rape seed which is notoriously susceptible to fungus.

ROBERT HARDING

It is in oil-rich plants such as rape and cereals that the most important genetic engineering developments are taking place

Such advances are not to be underestimated. Even in Britain some crops will lose 30 per cent of the yield to blight and pests. Third world losses are much higher. So, by transferring genes from plants which have a natural resistance to pests, the crop yields of other plants can be increased.

It is the precision of genetic engineering that makes it so attractive. The genetically engineered brewer's yeast that was licensed last February is a good example, says Professor John Hammond, of the Brewing Research Foundation at Nutfield, Surrey.

Researchers wanted to produce a low-calorie beer in which the sugars were consumed by the yeast. If they combined the two yeasts known to achieve this by traditional methods, they transferred a lot of baggage along with the gene they needed. The process of combination emphasised off-flavours of cinammon and clove and produced an undrinkable brew. Using genetic techniques, they identified the gene that causes yeast to consume sugar, isolated it, and crossed it into the other yeast. No off-flavours and a much publicised frothy head was the result.

The advisory committee made two points in clearing the yeast for development: that the genes were from the same species and that yeast had a long history of safe usage. The verdict suggested that the yeast was considered on its own merits and there was no discussion of the wider issues raised by genetic engineering.

The committee has yet to approve any of the more controversial work on foods where the genes come from different species, such as the rape with the anti-fungal radish gene.

Paranoia about genetic engineering remains intense. The fiction has already been painted: at worst, the cult films *Attack of the Killer Tomatoes* or *The Day of the Triffids*; at best, *The Stepford Wives* culture of millions of identical synthesised pineapples set on the grocer's shelf.

The upside is that biotechnology may develop varieties of staple crops that can grow in parts of the world which are barren. They may even create new kinds of foods, making some plants digestible or more palatable. Already this is beginning in animal feeds.

Genetic engineeering may help us towards a world where there is enough for everyone to eat. Better still, the technique may usher in foods grown with relatively low levels of pesticides and fungicides. Indeed, crops could be bred to avoid the need to use pesticides or fungicides.

Bananas are the focus of much attention because they need heavy doses of fumigants to protect them, some being sprayed up to 15 times before harvesting. Theoretically, bioscientists will be able to find a gene that is fungus-resistant and breed it into bananas.

In the short term, the big issue is labelling. How are we to know that we are eating geneticially modified foods? Consumers need to know: these are uncharted waters and people should be told, even if only one small part of a dish has been genetically engineered. The obvious route would be to follow the example of gardening catalogues, which are careful to label F1 hybrids produced by steps in plant technology which precede genetic engineering.

The Government has been conspicuously quiet about what it will do. The cheese rennet seems to have escaped any form of legislation.

In the medium term, though, the advances in bioscience should shift the emphasis of responsibility back to the grower and the producer to ensure the quality of their product. This should mean there is less justification in future for messing about with foods further down the chain in terms of additives and colourants.

The longer term paranoia is that one company might end up patenting valuable seeds and holding producers to ransom by, for example, preventing the traditional practice of saving seed from one year's crop to sow the following year.

The maths are against this, however, given how many varieties there of any single plant, their variations in different climates and the number of genes in a DNA sequence (the human body has 100,000 alone, a tomato about 35,000).

The discoveries through genetic engineering should be challenging us to ask, where do food and agriculture fit into the society in which we live? For that matter, the world we live in. Is food just a bit of Delia Smith-style entertainment, or can we use it as an agent of social change?

Cover photomontage by
MICHAEL BENNETT

THE TIMES

Lottery Prize Draw

21,000 National Lottery tickets to be won

WITH the first National Lottery tickets going on sale on Monday November 14, and a top prize in the region of £2m expected when the first draw takes place on Saturday November 19, lottery fever is starting to grip the nation. *The Times*, in association with *The Sunday Times*, is offering readers an additional chance to become overnight millionaires with our great lottery tickets prize draw.

We're offering you the chance to win up to 10,000 lottery tickets to be purchased on your behalf. Each has one chance in 54 of winning a prize. By collecting all 24 tokens from *The Times* and the 16 tokens which will appear in *The Sunday Times* you can enter our exclusive lottery prize draw four times. Each entry must be on a separate entry form and must be accompanied by 10 tokens per prize draw.

Our teams of ticket buyers will purchase 21,000 official lottery tickets on behalf of our winning readers with randomly generated numbers, and we will enter the numbers on to our database so that we can allocate numbers to ticket winners for entry into the November 19 prize draw.

FIRST PRIZE 10,000 £1 tickets

Second prize 2,000 £1 tickets; third prize 1,000 £1 tickets. Ten fourth prizes of 100 £1 tickets; 100 fifth prizes of 20 £1 tickets; 500 runners-up prizes of 10 £1 tickets

HOW TO ENTER

TO enter the prize draw, simply collect 10 lottery tokens from *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. Tokens will appear each day in *The Times* and for the next two weeks in *The Sunday Times*, giving you a total of 40 tokens and enabling you to make four entries in our 21,000 lottery tickets prize draw.

When you have collected 10 tokens, send them with an official entry form to: *The Times / The Sunday Times* Lottery Prize Draw, PO Box 2746, Colchester, Essex CO1 1QU.
Ticket winners will be randomly selected from entries received after the closing date of Tuesday November 8, 1994.

Look out for another token in The Sunday Times tomorrow

THE TIMES LOTTERY TOKEN

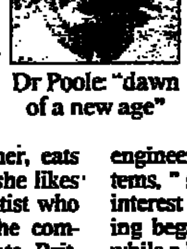
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1) Open to all residents in the UK and Channel Islands except employees of News International.
2) The promotion is open for registration until November 8, 1994. The promotion closes after the first national lottery draw on November 19. All entries must be received by November 8 to be included in the prize draw. Entries must be on an entry form and each must be accompanied by 10 tokens or they will not be valid for entry in the draw. Entrants may enter as often as they wish.
3) Names of the winners of lottery tickets will be published in *The Sunday Times* and *The Times* during the week commencing November 7, 1994.
4) A full list of lottery ticket numbers and any Times Newspapers lottery winners will be available by writing to The Customer Services Department, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN.
5) No purchase necessary. Tokens can be obtained by writing to: The Times Customer Services Department, 1 Virginia Street, London, E1 9XN. Enclose an s.a.e. One token per application received. No cash alternative will be offered. Winners will be allocated the lottery tickets they win.
6) No correspondence will be entered into and the editor's decision is final and binding in all matters relating to the promotion. Times Newspapers Ltd accepts no responsibility for entries that are lost, damaged or delayed in the post. Proof of posting is not proof of receipt.
7) *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* reserve the right to suspend, amend or terminate the promotion or the participation in whole or part, of any individual(s) at any time, without notice.
8) Winners may be required to participate in any such publicity as Times Newspapers requires.
Promoter: Times Newspapers Ltd, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN.

A taste of science

WHEN Nigel Poole pops home with the salad ingredients for the evening meal, he occasionally brings a plump, red, tomato for his wife to slice up with the cucumbers.

To those environmentalists who rail against genetically engineered crops, the Pooles are eating forbidden fruit. But to the 47-year-old microbiologist, the tomato marks the beginnings of a cleaner, less polluted, world.



Dr Poole: "dawn of a new age"

"It is a large step for mankind," says Dr Poole, echoing Neil Armstrong's phrase when he stepped on the moon 25 years ago. "My wife, who is a primary school teacher, eats these tomatoes, and she likes them," says the scientist who works for Zeneca, the company behind the tomato, Britain's first commercial, genetically engineered crop.

Dr Poole relishes the prospect, the culmination of more than 20 years of research, that new ways of producing food, drugs, and materials such as plastics and paper will rely on the free and clean energy of the sun and rainwater rather than on massive oil refineries and power plants billowing out fumes.

He likens the dawn of genetic engineering of crops to the development of the chemical industry at the beginning of the century. Before then, mankind relied on vegetable matter for dyes, until Sir William Perkin, a London-based scientist, made a synthetic mauve dye from coal tar.

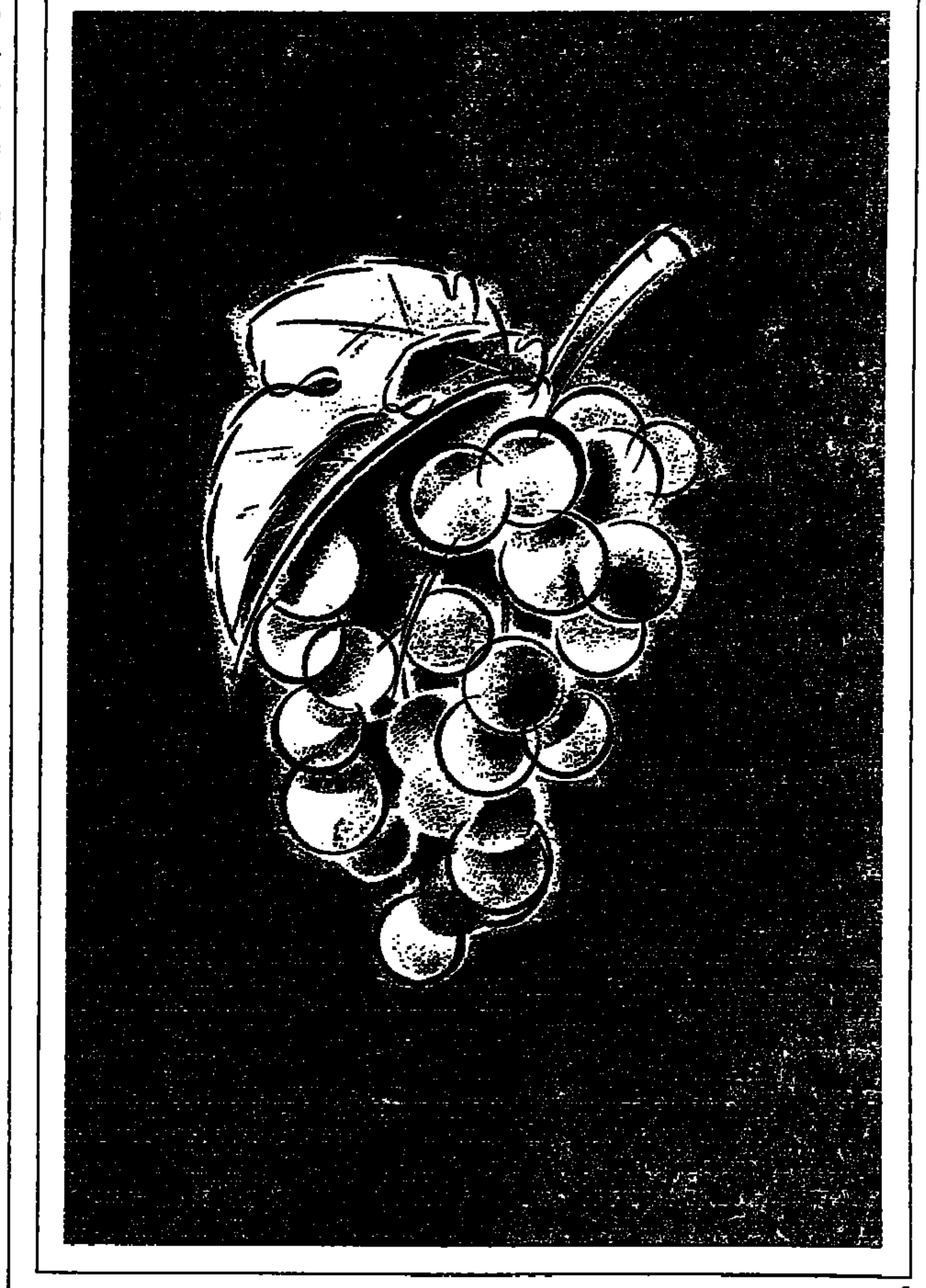
"This spawned the organic chemical industry and the quality of life we have today is dependent on this," Dr Poole says, citing the drugs, fertilisers, plastics and clothing of the modern world made possible by organic chemistry.

"We are entering a new age which will not be based on high-temperature processes and oil but on sunlight, water and genetic engineering of biological systems," says Dr Poole, whose interest in genetic engineering began in the early 1970s while a lecturer in Scotland at Aberdeen University.

He believes that, by the end of the century, most of the major crops will have been genetically engineered for pest resistance, reducing the need for man-made chemicals and cutting pollution to waterways and the risks to farm workers.

Research is already underway to produce drugs and plastics in plants, again reducing dependency on oil and energy-intensive industry.

NICK NUTTALL



Vive la différence!

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Fri 28 Oct 7.30	**THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH. Owain Arwel Hughes (cond) Joakim Svenheden (vln) Dvorák Scherzo Capriccioso; Bruch Violin Concerto No.1; Brahms Symphony No.4. £10, £5 *Lon Phil

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

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Sunday 23 October 11.30 am NB: starting time	**GUARNERI TRIO PRAGUE** — Coffee Concert. Haydn: Piano Trio in G HXV.25 *Gypsy Rondo* Lubos Fiser: Klaviertrio (1978); Dvorák: Trio in E minor Op.90 *Dumky* Sponsored by Central Europe Trust £7 including programme and coffee/sherry/juice Wigmore Hall
Sunday 23 October 7.00 pm NB: starting time	**LOUISE HOPKINS** cello, **ANDREW WEST** piano. Beethoven: Sonata in D Op.102 No.2 Bridge: Cello Sonata (1913-17); Marais: La Folia Elliott Carter: Sonata (1948) £10, £8, £6 (concs £8, £6, £4) Kirckman Concert Society/Sarah Gordon Concert Mgt
Monday 24 October 7.30 pm	**LA CHAPELLE ROYALE: ENSEMBLE VOCAL EUROPEEN** Philippe Herreweghe director — French Season. Monteverdi: Missa da cappella "In illo tempore" Cardoso: Missa miserere mihi Domine; 2 Motets £14, £12, £9, £6 In assoc. with the French Institute/Wigmore Hall
Tuesday 25 October 7.30 pm	**GUARNERI TRIO PRAGUE** — Master Concert. Suk: Elegie Op.23 Smetana: Piano Trio in G minor Op.15 Beethoven: Trio in B flat Op.97 *Archduke* £12, £10, £8, £6 Sponsor: Central Europe Trust Wigmore Hall
Wednesday 26 October 7.30 pm	**NICHOLAS DANIEL** oboe, **JULIUS DRAKE** piano. Schumann arr. Ferguson: 3 Duos Op.56 Nos 2 & 4, Op.58 No 4, Beethoven: Adagio Mesto; Sonata Op.67, Vars on *Là ci darem la mano*; Anderson: New work (prem); Lipkin: Bagatelles (prem); Schumann: Adagio & Allegro Op.70. £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50 Neil Chaffey Concert Promotions
Thursday 27 October 7.30 pm	**OLGA BORODINA** mezzo-soprano — Song Recital Series. **SEMION SKIGIN** piano. Mariinsky-Kirov Series. Songs by Tchaikovsky. ALL SEATS SOLD Wigmore Hall/RPO/Lies Askonas Ltd
Friday 28 October 7.30 pm	**AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** Richard Tognetti director/violin, Haydn: Symphony No.65 Mozart: Violin Concerto in G K216; Sculthorpe: Lament for Strings Janacek/Tognetti: String Quartet No.1 *Kreutzer Sonata* £15.00, £10.00, £7.50 Sponsored by Malaysia Airlines
Saturday 29 October 7.30 pm	**AMANDA ROOCROFT** soprano — Song Recital Series. **MALCOLM MARTINEAU** piano. Haydn: Berenice che fai HXXIVa/10; Lieder by Schubert & Strauss Falla: 7 Spanish Popular Songs; Britten: On this Island Op.11 ALL SEATS SOLD (returns only) Ingpen & Williams Ltd

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The Bach Choir
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Band and Fanfare Trumpeters of the Irish Guard

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TOM CONTI introduces
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Featuring instrumentalists from Chetham's School of Music, Manchester
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Brian Wright *conductor*
Edith Pritchard *soprano*
Jean Rigby *mezzo-soprano*
John Graham-Hall *tenor*
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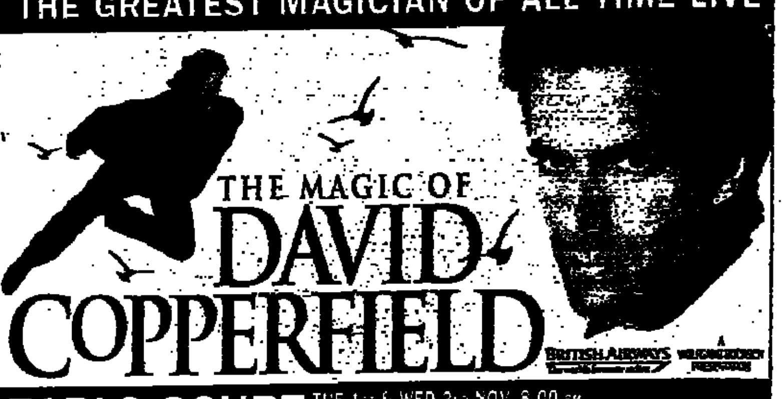

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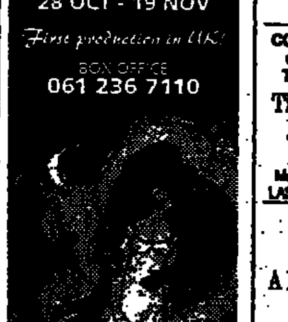

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مكتبة الاسكندرية

Say 'Leeds' and he's smiling

Opera is a funny old business, of course. Even so, what's going on in Leeds at present makes even hardened observers of this exotic scene gape with surprise. I refer to the remarkable appointment this week of one Richard Mantle as general director of Opera North.

As they say in the *Kobbé Opera Book*, you should know of the following before the curtain rises. Opera North is a young company that enjoys bags of goodwill from critics and audiences in the North of England. But it made one weird managerial decision last year and seems to be compounding the consequences with an even weirder one now.

The first was to appoint Ian Ritchie as its general director. Ritchie is a splendid dreamer of dreams, and heaven knows the country needs them. When he ran the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, that hitherto innocuous ensemble buzzed with innovations, premieres — and full houses. But he had little experience of opera when he was chosen to run Opera North.

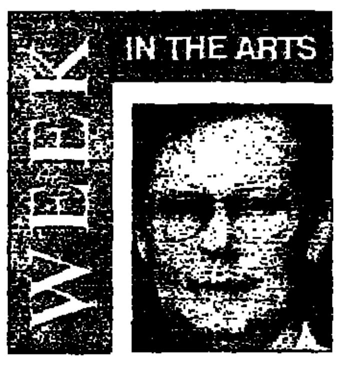
Soon afterwards he told me that he was "rethinking from top to bottom what an opera company does". His thoughts must have been jolly radical, because last month — barely a year into the job — he quit. Opera North quickly needed to find a replacement. They have turned to Richard Mantle.

Opera fans in Glasgow will be familiar with the name. Mantle was the managing director of Scottish Opera who abruptly departed in May 1991 after a blazing row with the board of directors. He left behind him, as a touching memento of his stewardship, a deficit of £675,000.

British opera was then deprived of his cheery presence for three seasons. In fact Mantle had gone to run the opera company in Edmonton, Canada. There, history repeated itself. Edmonton Opera says that since his arrival it has run up a deficit of £350,000. And the crowning glory of the Mantle Years, a Canadian music journalist fondly recalls, was when the company found itself so short of readies that it had to stage *Don Giovanni* in a set built for *The Pearl Fishers*. Spain? Sri Lanka? What's the difference?

Three weeks ago Mantle's contract was terminated by mutual consent. The company cites disagreement over "artistic vision" as the reason. I can't imagine what they mean. "He is an enormously charming sort, who turned on a real plummy English accent," observes the Canadian journalist. "That sort of bonhomie plays well in some circles here. But one wonders how far it will take him with the good burghers of Leeds."

Well, it has worked so far. About Mantle's appointment, Opera North's music director, Paul Daniel, has this to say: "Opera North's acclaim is fast outstripping its financial ability to deliver what both audiences and critics have come to expect and deserve. It is therefore with particular pleasure that we welcome a new general director who has wide experience and proven ability in the operatic arena, both nationally and internationally."



RICHARD MORRISON

A speech of such richly comic nuance should surely be set to music and inserted into an Offenbach operetta. What a merry wagon the opera business is! Any number of wheels can come off it, but nobody important ever seems to get thrown out of the cart.

Meanwhile, the innocent question "got a spare tyre?" is acquiring an awesome new meaning for the residents of Edinburgh. Yes, the ebullient Scottish sculptor David Mach has embarked on his latest gigantic project. It is nothing less than a "Parthenon" made of 8,000 tyres, mounted on 145 stacked shipping containers. To be called *Temple at Tyre* (classical scholars will enjoy the pun), it will stand 80ft high when it opens in Leith Docks early next month.

This is surely heartening news at a time when those entrusted with devising ways of celebrating the Millennium are complaining about a lack of imagination in the ideas being put forward. There's no shortage of imagination in this country, fellers. What we are *really* short of, clearly, is tyres.

Mach is, of course, no stranger to tyre art. He first came to notoriety when his *Polaris Submarine*, similarly constructed of the round and rubbery stuff, was destroyed by an arsonist on the South Bank in London 11 years ago. The arsonist burnt himself to death in the process.

Since then, however, Mach has extended his range. His portfolio (though of a necessarily temporary nature) now includes the memory, at least, of sculptures made with hundred of teddy bears, with thousands of Newcastle Ale beer bottles, with 80 tonnes of magazines, and even with 40,000 matchsticks.

On one famous occasion in Stoke-on-Trent he built a huge but precarious tower using thousands of Royal Doulton plates. With immaculate timing they all crashed to the ground just after the chairman of Royal Doulton had spoken grandly of how the sculpture symbolised the "new heights of achievement" being reached by the pottery industry. "The final crash came as a kind of theatrical catharsis," cooed *The Sunday Times*. "A load of old cobblers," said the *Daily Mirror* after observing Mach make a globe out of lots of discarded shoes.

I expect that many will side with the *Daily Mirror* on this one. But Mach does everything with such a sense of style, fun, ambition and showmanship that I find it impossible to condemn him as a charlatan. Indeed, the only surprise is that none of the world's great opera houses has yet called on him to design the sets for a *Ring* cycle. But judging from the Royal Opera's new *Rheingold* ("pass me my flippers, Wotan"), they may think that Mach is a bit too sophisticated for Wagner.

DONALD COOPER

Stella Gonet as a warm, glowing Isabella and Michael Feast as a skinhead-cropped, Dalek-sounding Duke in the Royal Shakespeare Company's *Measure for Measure*

Shakespeare's study in sleaze

THEATRE: In Stratford, an uneven but bold RSC production of *Measure for Measure*

It is some time since we saw a gathering of 50 or 60 on the stage of the *Royal Shakespeare Theatre* in Stratford. But this is the number that, thanks presumably to the RSC's good relations with the townspeople, Steven Pimlott brings on at the denouement of his staging of *Measure for Measure*. There they sit, a great wall of clerics, professors, magistrates, barristers and nobs in their dog-collars, wigs and black gowns. When Angelo is accused of corruption they gamely chorus "shame", and when Isabella talks of losing her virginity their reaction is as predictable: a long chortle of clubby male glee.

Pimlott's blend of the Victorian and modern is not always so happy. At one bizarre moment a tipsy, top-hatted hangman chooses a convict in stripes to assist at a beheading occurring in what, to judge by the screws' uniforms, is a contemporary British prison that happens also to be equipped with a huge electric chair. But the convocation of respectable personages at the end of the play is more to the point, for the play is about the darkness behind the glitter or, to put it in a more topical way, the sleaze within all that Establishment pomp.

That sleaze is, of course, mainly embodied by Angelo, the severe deputy who uses his Duke's sabbatical in an archetypally hypocritical way. He tries to blackmail the nun Isabella into succumbing to his retchy advances as the price of saving her brother Claudio, whom he has condemned to death for lechery. It is a part that has long attracted major actors, Gielgud prime among them; and Alex Jennings's performance here should earn him, too, a place at the top table.

He uses his youthful looks to the full, giving us the kind of prim, earnest fellow who gets made head prefect, earns a first in greats at Oxford, is loaded with praise and expectation, and still does not know himself. Jennings's voice has a doleful clang to it, as of a funeral bell; his face never cracks a smile; and that is how he likes it. As he says, he takes pride in his gravity.

When he discovers a sort of emotional anti-gravity in himself, he is a man appalled. All Angelos must suggest this, but Jennings does so with particular power. He is bewildered, shaken, furious with himself for indulging what he emphatically admits to be "evil". He beats the table, but his feelings only get more intense. His red, mottled face and fierce, demanding manner frighten Isabella, but himself almost more. You believe him after his unmasking, when he declares he would prefer death to moral humiliation.

He is well partnered by Stella Gonet, a warm, glowing Isabella who finds herself flaring almost as uncontrollably as Jennings, only with pain and rage. But Michael Feast has more than the usual trouble making sense of that slippery character, the Duke. It does not help that he looks like the skinhead serial killer in the current series of *Cracker* and adopts a strange, jerky manner of speaking, like a fastidious Dalek. He is sinister and sometimes forceful, but he does not explain why the character has renounced power and responsibility for voyeurism, manipulation, and the playing of God.

But overall the production is a success. Pimlott copes nicely with Ashley Martin-Davies's adaptable set, a vast amalgam of palace, jail, ministry and brothel concealed behind a vaster steel grille, and there are some strong supporting performances from Toby Stephens's plucky, terrified Claudio to Caroline Blakiston's platinum-haired, leaden-faced Mistress Overdone. Why is the latter in a wheelchair? Presumably because someone jokes that she has sciatica of the hip. And why has she a French accent? There I must pass.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Abigail Morris

Theatre Director

Age: 30

Post: Artistic director of the Soho Theatre Company at the Cockpit, which stages new plays by new writers, including an extensive development process. Around 15,000 scripts now arrive every year compared with 300 when Morris was appointed in 1992.

Education: Comprehensive schools, in Finchley where she was born, followed by Camden School for Girls. Then Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

Extras: "I'm a big football fan. It's incredibly theatrical. I love the way it brings people together. It is a live event where the crowd affect the players. I'm a big eater, too," adds the small, wafer-thin Morris.

Family theatricals? *None. Her parents were refugees.*

The path to the Cockpit: After acting a little, "terribly badly", she founded the women's company, Trouble and Strife, at Cambridge, "to redress the balance a bit because all the plays seemed to be by, for and about men." *Present Continuous*, the first play she'd ever directed, won an instant Edinburgh Fringe First. On leaving college, she was assistant director to Max Stafford-Clark at the Royal Court. *Now at the Hour of Our Death*, about the dirty protest by female prisoners in Armagh, won a *Time Out* award.

Future Ambitions? "I'm really happy doing this. It's quite worrying: I don't have a game plan." *Kindertransport*, which Morris staged at the Cockpit and recently restaged in Manhattan, is scheduled for a West End run in 1995. Meanwhile, her latest production, *Tulip Futures*, opens soon at the Cockpit.

On her work: "With new plays you want to do them as well as possible rather than making your mark on them as you might with a classic. I want new work that's both excellent and accessible. I like strong narrative drive, resonance with the audience: that's the moment I'm looking for."

On herself: "People describe me as having real energy and bringing others along with that. And I talk a lot."

KATE BASSETT

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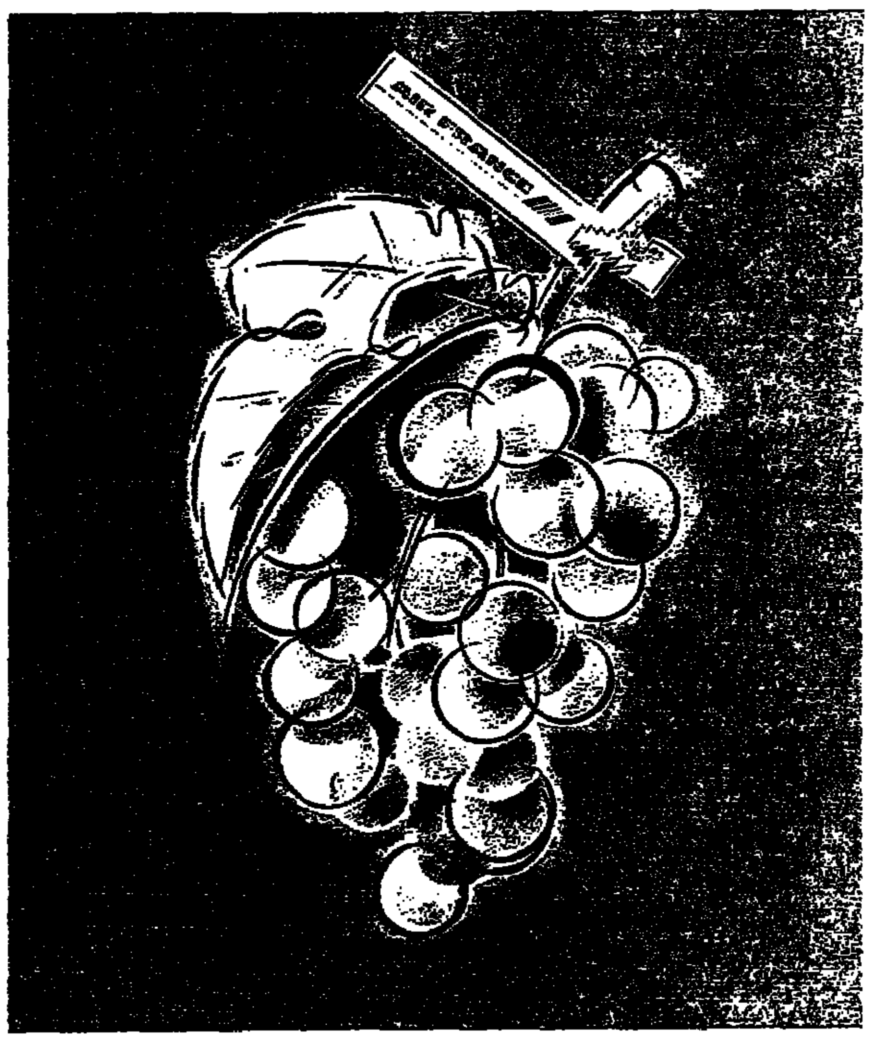

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ARTS

WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

◩ **BEAUTIFUL THING**: Jonathan Harvey's award-winning and touching play about teenage love, gay and straight, on a London council estate.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122) Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6pm and 8.30pm.

□ **THE CHILDREN'S HOUR** Clare Higgins and Harriet Walter as two schoolteachers accused of being lovers by a brat student. Lilian Hellman's powerful drama from 1934, directed by Howard Davies
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252) Today, 2.15 and 7.30pm, Mon, 7.30pm.

□ **COME GOOD RAIN**: Astonishing account by George Seremba, a Ugandan dissident in the time of Obote and Amin, who survived execution and tells his story for those who did not. A success in Canada and the US.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (071-328 1000) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

◩ **DESIGN FOR LIVING**: Clive Owen, Paul Rhys and Rachel Weisz in Coward's defence of the *ménage à trois*. The evening is a lot of fun though Sean Mathias trumpets the bisexuality where Coward only hinted
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-369 1732) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm

◩ **GAUCHO**: Doug Lucie directs his own play, set on a Greek island where an elusive drugs dealer grants an interview to a university friend and her chums who have secrets of their own
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301) Now previewing, 8pm; opens Oct 24

◩ **THE GREEN PARAKEET**. Schnitzler's one-act play, set in a Paris tavern catering for aristos with a taste for low life. Meanwhile, crowds are gathering at the Bastille
Greenwich Studio, Prince of Orange, Greenwich High Road, SE10 (081-858 2862) Tue-Sun, 8pm, until Nov 13.

□ **KING LEAR**: Award-winning Lancashire company Kaboodle play central London for the first time with its dynamic, highly visual production.
Bloomsbury, Gordon Street, WC1 (071-388 8822). Mon-Sat, 7pm

□ **MOBY DICK** David Calder plays the one-legged Captain in Gerry Mulgrew's production for the RSC. Visually fine but ultimately unstirring.
Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Tue, 7.15pm, mat today, 2pm. Final performances.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◩ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

◩ **NEVILLE'S ISLAND**: Tony Slattery heads a strong cast playing a quartet of businessmen disastrously lost in the fog during a team-building exercise in Lakeland. Jeremy Sams directs Tim Firth's shrewd play.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Wed, 2.30pm; Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm.

□ **900 ONEONTA**: David Beaird's Gothic shock-horror satire of a rotten Southern family steeped in sex and incompetence. Totally over the top but weirdly exhilarating
Ambassadors, West St, WC2 (071-836 6111) Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs 3pm and Sat 4pm.

■ **THE OFFICIAL TRIBUTE TO THE BLUES BROTHERS**: "Jake" and "Elwood" give two hours of soul, blues and rhythm 'n' blues. Lights, noise, good voices, exhilarating stuff.
Comedy, Panton St, SW1 (071-369 1731) Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6pm and 9pm. Until Oct 29.

□ **ON APPROVAL**. Peter Hall gives us the Lonsdale play as it was and is: a sophisticated, diverting but relatively sexless piece. Martin Jarvis is in brilliant form, with Anna Carteret, Louise Lombard and Simon Ward
Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

◩ **ONCE ON THIS ISLAND** Splendidly executed production of the hit Broadway musical, transferred from Birmingham Rep. Showbiz and Caribbean folk-tale proves to be a successful marriage; terrific island sets.
Island (formerly the Royalty), Portugal St, WC2 (071-494 5090) Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat, 6pm, 8.45pm, mat Wed, 3pm

□ **THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE**: Patricia Hodge plays the inspirational but dangerous schoolteacher in a revival of an old favourite. Alan Strachan directs
Strand, Strand, WC2 (071-930 8800). Now previewing, 7.45pm, opens Oct 25

□ **THE QUEEN AND I**: Sue Townsend's satiric romp follows the deposed royals as they struggle to survive on a council estate. Paula Wilcox plays a sensible and genial Queen: not as subversive as one might expect. Max Stafford Clark directs.
Vaudeville, The Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

◩ **THE SEVEN STREAMS OF THE RIVER OTA**. Robert Lepage's latest work in progress. Hiroshima's Ota becomes a living river, carrying a young woman on an epic journey through the 20th century — Prague, Nazi Germany, Paris, New York, Hiroshima. First seen at this year's Edinburgh Festival.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (081-741 2255) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until Nov 5

◩ **THE SISTERS ROSENSWEIG**: Greenwich Theatre's production of Wendy Wasserstein's too cosy tears 'n' laughter drama. Three sisters (Maureen Lipman, Janet Suzman and Linda Bellingham) seek happiness.
Old Vic, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (071-928 7616). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 4pm.

◩ **WHAT A PERFORMANCE**. David Suchet shows off well as he mugs and flounces as Sid Field in William Humble's stage biography.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

LONG RUNNERS

◩ **Arcadia**: Haymarket (071-930 8800) ... ■ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... ◩ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ■ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) ... ■ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) ... ■ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ... ◩ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ... ◩ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Grease**: Dominion (071-416 6060) ... ◩ **An Inspector Calls**: Aldwych (071-836 6404) ... □ **Lady Windermere's Fan**: Albery (071-867 1115) ... ■ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ... ■ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ... □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ◩ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (071-836 8888) ... ■ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ■ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (071-344 0055) ... ◩ **The Winslow Boy**: Globe (071-494 5065) ... □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

NEW RELEASES

◆ **THE CLIENT** (15): Mediocre version of John Grisham's thriller about a boy in jeopardy, with Susan Sarandon, Tommy Lee Jones and Brad Renfro. Director, Joel Schumacher.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

8 SECONDS (PG): Unwanted biopic of a rodeo rider. The year's dullest film with Luke Perry and Stephen Baldwin, director, John G. Avildsen.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031)

L'ENFER (15): Jealousy rages in a provincial hotel. Uneven thriller from Claude Chabrol, with Emmanuele Béart and François Cluzet.
Chelsea (071-351 3742) **Curzon Phoenix** (071-240 9661)

LANCELOT DU LAC (PG): Robert Bresson strips the Arthurian legend bare in a minimalist masterpiece from 1974. With Luc Simon and Laura Duke Condominas
Everyman (071-435 1525)

ORPHEE. Jean Cocteau's mesmerising retelling of the Orpheus legend, revived in a new print. With Jean Marais, Maria Casar
NFT (071-928 3232)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18): See Critic's Choice, page 2

CURRENT

◆ **THE ADVENTURES OF PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT** (15). Two drag queens and a transsexual get stuck in the Australian outback. Joyful and vulgar romp with Terence Stamp and Hugo Weaving
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER** (12): Harrison Ford fights Government duplicity and Colombia's drug cartels. Philip Noyce directs the best Jack Ryan adventure so far
Empire (0800 888911) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

COLOR OF NIGHT (18): Tawdry, unpleasant erotic thriller, with Bruce Willis as a therapist dogged by a murderer. Richard Rush directs
Odeon Mezzanine (0426 915683)

◆ **FORREST GUMP** (12): See Critic's Choice, page 2

◆ **THE FLINTSTONES** (U): Hollow, noisy live-action treatment of the TV cartoon set in Stone Age suburbia, with John Goodman and Rick Moranis. Brian Levant directs
MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

◆ **FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL** (15): Mike Newell's smart social comedy with Hugh Grant and Andie MacDowell.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426 915353) **Kensington** (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

GERONIMO (12): Strangely dull account of the Apache warrior's capture from director Walter Hill. With Jason Patric, Gene Hackman, Robert Duvall and Wes Studi.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6279)

THE HUDSUCKER PROXY (PG): Hick becomes company boss. Ritzy comic pastiche from the Coen brothers, with Tim Robbins, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Paul Newman.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631)

LADYBIRD LADYBIRD (18): Volatile mother versus social services. Emotionally devastating drama from Ken Loach, based on a true story, with a powerful performance by Crissy Rock.
Lumiere (071-836 0691)

THE LAST SEDUCTION (18): Enjoyably amoral tale of sex, power and $700,000, with Linda Fiorentino as the femme fatale to end them all. Director, John Dahl.
Metro (071-437 0757) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Piccadilly** (071-437 3561)

◆ **THE LION KING** (U): African lion cub almost loses his father's throne. Much hyped but charmless Disney cartoon, not meant for tiny tots
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Sq** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Screen/Baker St** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **THE MASK** (PG): Strange mask turns mild bank employee into a wisecracking demon. Inventive vehicle for rubber-faced Jim Carrey, filled with the antic spirit of 1940s cartoons
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Panton Street** (071-930 0631) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

MAVERICK (PG). Mel Gibson as the TV Western conman. Disappointing summer fun, with Jodie Foster and James Garner. Director, Richard Donner.
Odeon Mezzanine (0426 915683)

THE RED SQUIRREL (18). Fresh and frisky anti-machismo frolic by rising Spanish director Julio Medem. With Emma Suarez and Nancho Novo
Metro (071-437 0757) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

SIRENS (15): Oxford curate and his wife mingle with Australia's bohemians. Joyful, luscious romp, with Hugh Grant, Tara Fitzgerald and Elle MacPherson. Directed by John Duigan
Odeon Mezzanine (0426 915683)

◆ **SPEED** (15): Enjoyable package of thrills, with Keanu Reeves as the SWAT team daredevil faced with a bomb on an LA bus. With Sandra Bullock and Dennis Hopper.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

THREESOME (18): Shallow but smart college comedy with good quips and attractive performances (Lara Flynn Boyle, Stephen Baldwin). Director, Andrew Fleming
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Piccadilly** (071-437 3561) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

TO LIVE (12): Simple, enthralling family epic from leading Chinese director Zhang Yimou. With Ge You, Gong Li.
Curzon West End (071-439 4805) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666) **Screen/Hill** (071-435 3366)

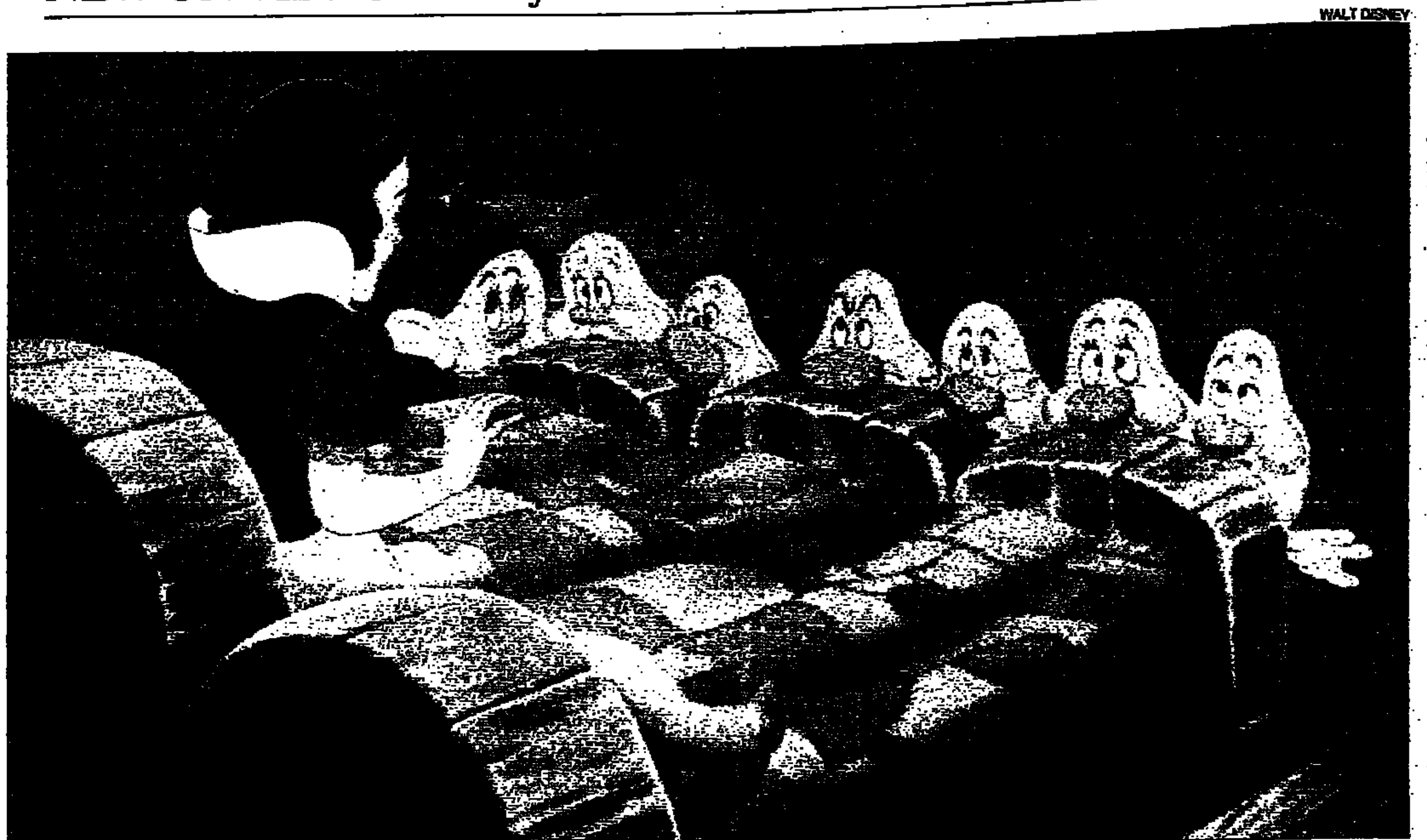
◆ **TRUE LIES** (15). Schwarzenegger saves the world from Middle East terrorists. But what about his marriage? Overblown fun with Jamie Lee Curtis. James Cameron directs.
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

◆ **WHEN A MAN LOVES A WOMAN** (15): Serious, well-focused drama about alcohol abuse, detoxification and after. With Meg Ryan and Andy Garcia: director, Luis Mandoki
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

WOLF (15): Jack Nicholson's beast within finally comes out. Amusing, intelligent werewolf movie, with Michelle Pfeiffer. Director, Mike Nichols
Odeon Mezzanine (0426 915683)

WYATT EARP (12): Over-solemn and reverential epic, with Kevin Costner as the lawman, and Dennis Quaid as Doc Holliday. Lawrence Kasdan directs.
Warner (071-437 4343)

NEW ON VIDEO: Disney's first cartoon feature; Bette Midler lets rip



WALT DISNEY

Stirring genuine emotions: Snow White awakes as the seven dwarfs discover her in their bedroom in the new Disney video of its classic 1937 film

■ **SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS**
Disney, U, 1937
EVERY home should have a copy of Disney's first cartoon feature, presented for the first time on video. Prince Charming may be a sap, but Snow White's virginal glow is fetching, and the jealous Queen still inspires shivers. If you're not six years old the seven dwarfs can outstay their welcome; but nothing seriously dents the stature of a film that stirs genuine emotions. The tape also includes deleted footage and scenes of the glitterati at the 1937 premiere.

■ **BACKBEAT**
Columbia TriStar, 15, 1994
BOUNCY movie about Stuart Sutcliffe, the "fifth Beatle", during the Beatles' Hamburg fling in 1960. One looming problem: the dominant personality, John Lennon, is not the film's major character. No disrespect, though, to Stephen Dorff, who brings Sutcliffe's dreamy art student into as much focus as the script allows. New director Iain Softley does a creditable job, but what finally makes his film enjoyable is the evocation of the time, the place and the bohemian characters that helped turn Liverpool rock 'n' rollers into the Beatles. Available to rent.

■ **FEARLESS**
Warner, 15, 1994
PETER Weir's film grabs your throat from the opening sequence, when Jeff Bridges emerges, Messiah-like, from a cornfield strewn with air-crash debris. A wimp before, he now boasts nerves of steel, while another survivor, Rosie Perez, is crumpled up with grief. Once the two make contact, the film drifts and grows morbid, but salvation is at hand in a spectacular finale. Available to rent.

■ **THE HIDDEN FORTRESS**
Connoisseur, PG, 1958
CAN stony-faced warrior Toshira Mifune get his fairy-tale princess and her royal fortune back home in one piece? The perilous journey is strewn with comedy and urgent battles brilliantly staged by director Akira Kurosawa. George Lucas has acknowledged the film as a jumping-off point for *Star Wars*. Presented in the original widescreen ratio.

■ **GERMINAL**
Guild, 15
AT TIMES, when fire belches into the dark sky or striking miners mass on the horizons, this expensive version of Zola's novel behaves like the powerful epic it was meant to be. Elsewhere, director Claude Berri only stirs polite boredom as capital and labour stand at loggerheads and the socialist hero Etienne (a laidback performance from singer Renaud) stirs miners to strike over pay. Gérard Depardieu, alas, is an early pit casualty.

■ **LA SCORTA**
Tartan, 15, 1993
RICKY Tognazzi's absorbing account of Italian bodyguards shadowing a magistrate sent to replace an assassinated judge on the Mafia's trail in Sicily. The men never emerge as individuals, but Tognazzi's mosaic method catches the minutiae of their daily lives: the hours spent waiting, the gripes about rundown equipment, the routine presence of danger lurking round every corner.

■ **GYPSY**
Entertainment Video, PG, 1993
CONSIDERING its impoverished visuals, the small screen is the happiest home for Emile Ardolino's revamp of Jule Styne's showbiz musical. Bette Midler steps into Ethel Merman's shoes more timidly than expected, but lets rip when she gets to "Everything's Coming Up Roses". An engaging performance by Peter Riegert as the manager of Midler's brood; and Cynthia Gibb as the gawky daughter who becomes Gypsy Rose Lee, stripper supreme, help give the last half dramatic weight. Available to rent.

GEOFF BROWN

Surrounded in your own home

Michael Scott Rohan books his ticket in the best stalls for the Home Cinema phenomenon

FUTURE VISIONS

A LOT of people are tempted by the newly vivid entertainment medium known as Home Cinema, combining enhanced TV pictures with enveloping surround-sound. Many hesitate, though, because they wonder if they will find enough to watch. Certainly other new media have come to grief when the hardware was launched without a decent choice of software; but not this one. For Home Cinema, in fact, supply is well ahead of demand. You can already enjoy a wide variety of surround-sound programmes from several different sources, many without paying a penny extra: and on the horses-for-courses principle, you can choose the sources that best suit the kind of system you want.

The easiest source of all is your television. Most of the recent films broadcast will have surround-sound soundtracks — and not only the thud-and-blunder blockbusters. *The Piano*, for example, makes especially clever and atmospheric use of it.

You might be surprised how many popular programmes offer it via NICAM stereo, too. I have already mentioned a few — *Prime Suspect 2*, *Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, *Cracker* — but there have also been *Scavengers*, for example, and *Northern Exposure*, *NYPD Blue* and *The Cosby Show* on Channel 4, *Quantum Leap* on BBC2. If you have satellite channels, there is, heaven help us, *The Simpsons*, and for Star Trekkies *The Next Generation* and *Deep Space Nine*: you can even share the roar of the crowd in *Premiere League Football*. One word of caution, though: satellite broadcasting's less effective stereo system sometimes diminishes surround effects.

If all that is not enough, you need look no further than your local video library. A surround-sound soundtrack is almost always transferred to the commercial videotape as a matter of course. Consequently there are said to be some 4,000 titles available already. With the kind of basic HC system suitable for smaller listening rooms — a Dolby Pro-Logic-equipped TV, for example — videotape will give you decent sound quality and an adequate picture. If you have a more advanced setup — a Pro-Logic-equipped midi system, perhaps — you might consider adding one of the new Video-CD systems. These are CD-sized discs carrying a slightly better picture than tape, and quite a decent digital sound, giving clearer surround effects. Some discs are already available, and the price is very competitive.

If you want to use a quality hi-fi system and a really good television, though, there is only one way to get the best out of them: laserdisc.

Laserdiscs are more expensive, but not outrageously, and they are worth it. They offer steady, crystal-clear pictures and CD-level sound which gives surround ambience an often quite alarming immediacy (try a *Jurassic Park* demonstration!). They last far better than tape, and there is an excellent choice of programmes, especially if your player, like most, can play American NTSC discs. Laserdiscs are the favourite medium for most home cinema systems sold in this country, and rightly so.

In these last few articles I have tried to give a general idea of what Home Cinema represents, its appeal and its potential, but there is no substitute for experiencing it for yourself.

You should have little difficulty finding a dealer, although they occasionally need persuading to demonstrate something other than *Top Gun* or *Terminator 2*. They are also too fond of secondary (and more expensive) features such as DSP, Digital Signal Processing.

Basically this allows you to impose artificial acoustics on the sound, a church, concert hall, stadium, disco or wherever. DSP does have practical uses, some expensive systems let you tailor the sound most accurately to your listening room. But mostly it is just a gimmick that you need not bother with.

The true quality of surround-sound, like all the best audio equipment, is most apparent when least apparent — "transparent", in computer jargon. When you find yourself so wrapped up in picture and ambience that you forget the mechanics, you are enjoying the true Home Cinema experience.

The best seats in the house for less, two tickets for the price of one, discounts at every hand – all these could be yours for £12.50 a year

London gets on the Fringe

THE TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

THE artistic hub of the annual Edinburgh Festival Fringe is undoubtedly the Assembly Rooms. Now the Fringe has reached west London, where the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith has put together a lively programme of hits from this year's Festival. Hull Truck Theatre is presenting its two 1994 productions, *Off Out* by Gill Adams, which won a Fringe First Award, and John Godber's evergreen *Bouncers*, a fixture on the Fringe for many years.

Off Out looks at the relationship between four people caught up in the seedy world of prostitution, while *Bouncers*, which first opened in Edinburgh 17 years ago — and played to an audience of two — is a hilarious exposé of disco nightlife. Now an international cult, *Bouncers* has been translated into four languages.

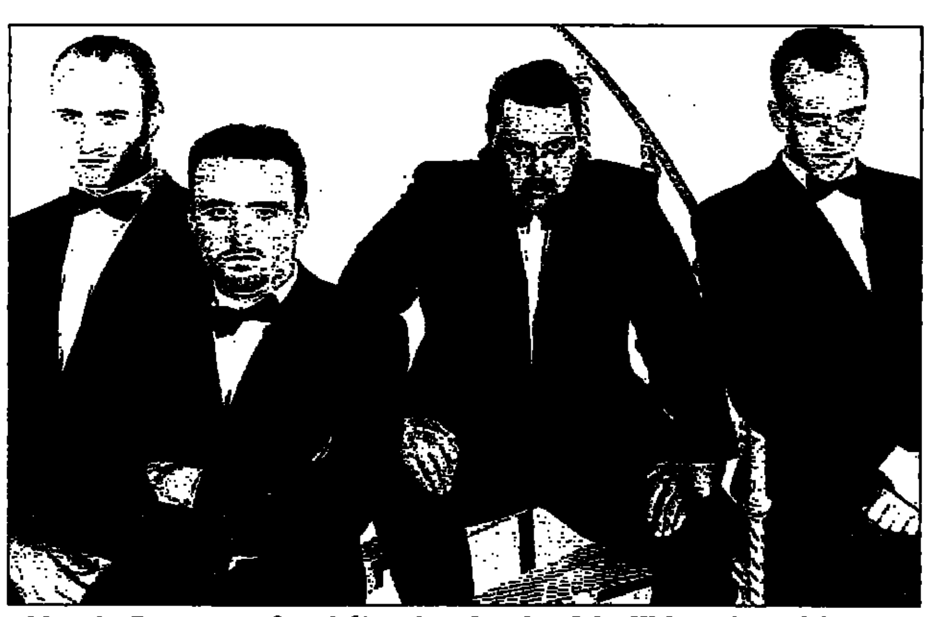
From November 1-5 Theatre Club members can buy tickets for both plays for £6 (normal price £9.50). For the true Fringe experience, see them both on the same night — *Off Out* is at 7.15pm and *Bouncers* at 9.30pm. Telephone 081-741 2255

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

LONDON
Bush Theatre
Oct 31-Nov 19 (except Nov 1)
● BIYI Bandele Thomas's haunting and hilarious new play *Two Horsemen* — winner of the Best Play award at this year's London New Play Festival — transfers to the Bush. Banza and Lagbaja own little but their humour and the power of their story-telling. Do their stories sustain them, or will they trap them in a world of make-believe? Theatre Club members can buy tickets for £6 (normally £9). Tel 081-743 3388

CARDIFF
New Theatre
Nov 7-8
● JOHN Nettles stars in *The Provoked Wife*, Sir John Vanbrugh's classic Restoration comedy. Written in 1697, it is a story of love, lust and infidelity providing a splendid evening of intrigue. Members can buy tickets for £7.50 (normally £12). Tel 0222 394844

CHELTENHAM
Everyman Theatre
Oct 28; Nov 4, 11, 18
● FOR the noisy and unruly Stott family life is an endless series of ups and downs. C.P. Taylor's *And A Nightingale Sang* ... tells how they survived the Second World War on a mixture of hopes, fears, dreams and song. Two tickets for the price of one (normal prices £10 and £13). Tel 0242 574573



Meet the *Bouncers* — (from left) Andrew Lawden, John Kirk, Andrew Livingston and Andrew Williams — at the Riverside Studios in west London. See first item

BIRMINGHAM
Repertory Theatre
Nov 3, 5
● MICHAEL Cashman, Stephanie Fayerman and John Rogan star in *Loot* and *Entertaining Mr Sloane*, two of Joe Orton's most famous black comedies. In *Loot* Hal McLeavey and his undertaker friend have hidden the swag from a bank job in Mrs McLeavy's coffin. Then Inspector Truscott arrives, disguised as a water-board official. Mayhem ensues, of course, as Orton blows metaphorical raspberries at all the sacred institutions of British society. In *Entertaining Mr Sloane* an amoral, bisexual teenager, a sex-starved middle-aged spinster, her peculiar brother and their puritanical father weave a tangled web of conspiracy, intrigue and deceit. Theatre Club members who buy a ticket for the 3pm performance of *Loot* will be able to see *Entertaining Mr Sloane* at 7pm for nothing. Tel 021-236 4455

OLDHAM
Coliseum Theatre
Nov 8-10
● FIRST produced on the stage by the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1980, Willy Russell's *Educating Rita* was a runaway hit in the theatre before being immortalised on the screen by Michael Caine and Julie Walters. Since then it has never been out of the theatrical repertoire. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £7.50). Tel 061-624 2829

HULL
Hull Truck Theatre
Nov 8-11
● HAROLD Pinter's *No Man's Land* is a powerful exploration of freedom, old age and mortality. In the London home of Hirst, a writer, a tense and often funny drama is played out between him, his strange house guest and his two sinister servants. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £6.95). Tel 0482 23638

MUSSELBURGH
Brunton Theatre
Nov 1-3
● JOHN Godber, the acclaimed author of *Bouncers*, presents *September In The Rain*, the nostalgic and hilarious story of Jack, a proud colliery worker, and Liz, his long-suffering wife, as they embark on their annual escape to Blackpool. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £7.50). Tel 031-665 2240

JOIN NOW

TO JOIN the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN, or telephone 0206 41662 using your credit card. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general inquiries call 071-387 9673

TO BOOK for any or all of this week's special offers, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive will be the special price negotiated by the Theatre Club. In some cases there may be a transaction charge to cover postage

RECORDINGS: A joyous *Falstaff*; Borodin Quartet's special understanding; Shane MacGowan finds new inspiration

John Higgins

■ **VERDI**
Falstaff
Dessi/di Nissa/Pons/Frontali, La Scala Orchestra, and Chorus/Muti
Sony S2K 58 961 (2 CDs) ★★★

LAUGHTER bubbles away in this *Falstaff* from La Scala. It is there among the merry wives of Windsor, chattering away like contented magpies; it is there from Bardolfo and Pistol, who make up in mockery what they lose in wages. It is personified in Falstaff himself, who after all his tribulations points out that it is his own wit that prompts the wit in others. And, supremely, it is there in the Scala orchestra under Riccardo Muti's quicksilver direction.

Muti prefers now to record most operas live in his own Milan house with the Scala forces and *Falstaff* is a vindication of the policy. Around Juan Pons in the title role he has handpicked a collection of singers, mainly young and mainly Italian, to give a performance which is as alert as it is vibrant. Muti provides the precision and magic — the Windsor Forest music has rarely been played with such delicacy. His singers deliver the broader comedy, which demands a theatre audience not a recording studio.

Before *Falstaff*, Juan Pons, despite the strength and warmth of his baritone, has seldom impressed as an actor. All that changes under Muti's guidance, as Sir John becomes a fat knight in love, offering more than most in serious attention to the ladies as he parries first with Mistress Quickly and then with Alice in beer-barrel tones. Pons's old dog suggests he has plenty of life yet as he shakes the Thames water off his fur and prepares once more for the chase. Pons may miss the lightness of "Quand'ero paggio" but is superb at suggesting Falstaff's qualities of resilience and forgiveness.

La Scala's supporting cast recalls the great days of Ligabue and Freni in this opera. Daniela Dessi's Alice ranks with the best, her soprano floating off into the Windsor sky, whether sunlit or moonlit, happy at the prospect of larks ahead. Maureen Flynn's Nannetta matches Muti's filigree sound in her Act III arietta in the Forest and Ramon Vargas's Fenton partners her with equal lightness of touch. Roberto Frontali's Ford lets the fury pour out of him in Act III, then is as forgiving as the rest at the end. But Bernadette Manca di Nissa's Quickly is fruity enough to indicate that she will go on plotting as long as there are plots to be hatched. Those who prefer to see *Falstaff* as rueful, autumnal Verdi should perhaps stay with Giulini on DG (★★★). But for present laughter take Muti.

Riccardo Muti: his quicksilver direction wins a vibrant performance from the cast as well as adding magic to *Falstaff* and bringing out its humour

Hilary Finch

■ **HAYDN**
The Seven Last Words
Borodin Quartet
Teldec 4509 92373-2 ★★★

A CAVE church in Cadiz was the setting for one of Haydn's strangest and most moving works. He had been commissioned to write meditative music to fill the silences between the priest's ritual reading of each of the seven last words of Christ on the cross. When Haydn later transcribed his original orchestral version for string quartet, he created seven slow sonatas whose vocabulary of sighing pairs and note-searing syncopations, chromatic harmony and polyphony are held together by an all-pervasive rhythmic heartbeat.

Borodin Quartet: insight

When words were later set to the music (the oratorio version was given a particularly fine performance in 1992 by Harnoncourt and the Arnold Schoenberg Choir on Teldec 2292-46458-2), they fell into place effortlessly, because Haydn had already, in his instrumental thinking, used the device of "speaking" music. The burning concentration of the five seminal notes of the "Consummatum est" movement, for instance, both "speaks" the words syllabically and goes on to abstract from them their metaphysical essence as the music expands expressively.

This is what the Borodin Quartet understands so well. They are not without serious competition in the catalogue (fine performances from the Mosaïques, Panocha, Amadeus and Lindsay); yet the passionate austerity of the playing, its precise consideration of every dynamic level, and the imaginative observation of every shifting tone of voice, is something truly special. If I could award four stars . . .

□ **HAYDN**
"Tost" Quartets Op 55
Lindsay Quartet
ASV CD DCA 906 ★★

OF THE 12 quartets Haydn wrote for his violinist friend Johann Tost, this middle group (the Lindsay has already recorded Tost I and II) was composed only two years after the quartet version of *The Seven Last Words*, and there are unmistakable resonances.

Particularly in the Quartet No 2 in F minor, the opening movement, with its alternating grave and tender variations, speaks very much the same language. The Lindsay Quartet gives time and space for the ventilation of its spare textures, then delights in the exuberance of the following movement, where ideas tumble and tie themselves into ever tighter contrapuntal knots, before sidling into the dry, droll little Minuet. Their playing is equally perceptive in the fresh-faced Quartet No 1 in A and as they tease out the theme and variations of the more sombre, chromatic No 3 in B flat.

Stephen Pettitt

■ **BACH**
Brandenburg Concertos
New London Consort/Pickett
Decca L'Oiseau-Lyre 440 675-2 (two discs) ★★★

AN IMPORTANT and stimulating issue, significant for the fine performances and for Philip Pickett's accompanying essay. In it he proposes an allegorical interpretation for the six Brandenburg Concertos, claiming that they contain a complex symbolism waiting to be interpreted.

So Concerto No 1, Pickett thinks, is about the Triumph of Caesar (alias the Margrave of Brandenburg), because horns featured prominently in Roman triumphal processions. The dances' presence at the end is an affectionate pun, simply because a well-known Augsburg composer called Johann Caesar wrote suites of dances. And because Nero played lyre and bagpipe and the equivalents of those instruments are violin and oboe, the Caesar concerned was Nero rather than Julius. So, Pickett's argument continues, the concerto was both a glorification of the Margrave and a warning to him of power's tendency to corrupt.

The other concertos he asserts to be concerned with fame, Homer, Virgil and Dante (No 2), with the nine muses and the harmony of the spheres (No 3, very reasonably), with the musical contest between Apollo and Marsyas (No 4), with the choice of Hercules (No 5), and finally with the allegorical tale, apparently common in the 17th century, of three princes meeting three corpses (No 6).

Maybe. But even if Pickett's theories turn out to be balderdash, they perform the important function of helping us to listen to these works from a different perspective.

Philip Pickett: theories

The performances sound fresh, although occasionally Pickett does odd things with tempos. Often, just before a virtuoso solo, the music slows as if to prepare the listener for an over-careful soloist. The recording is vivid, close yet with a sense of space and resonance.

□ **BACH**
Mass in B minor
Soloists/The Sixteen/Christophers
Collins Classics 70322 (two discs) ★★★

HARRY Christophers's tempos are fastish and he keeps choral and orchestral textures wonderfully clean. A cast of soloists to match that approach includes Catherine Dubosc, Catherine Denley, James Bowman, John Mark Ainsley and Michael George.

Barry Millington

■ **SCHUMANN/GRIEG**
Piano Concertos
Luisada/LSO/Tilson Thomas
DG 439 913-2 ★★★

THE Schumann and Grieg piano concertos are one of the most popular couplings in the catalogue — and not without reason because Grieg echoed more than just the tonality (A minor) of the senior composer's work in his own. Any fears, however, that these performances would be merely catalogue fodder are dispelled from the start. The Tunisian-born pianist Jean-Marc Luisada brings careful thought to the placing of notes, the shaping of phrases, and weighs subordinate accompanimental detail to perfection in relation to singing melodic lines. The latter are beautifully evocative — tonally coloured and rhythmically supple without undue exaggeration — and the more animated sections, such as the first movement's development, surge with heartfelt passion.

Michael Tilson Thomas is an ideal accompanist, providing a rhythmically taut but observantly pointed backdrop for the soloist in the first movement, and engaging in sympathetic dialogue with him in the Intermezzo. The finale goes with a real swing.

The Grieg draws an equally perceptive performance from both soloist and conductor, supported by the LSO on top form, and enhanced by a warmly vibrant, finely detailed recorded sound.

Their account has none of the idiosyncrasy that I commented on adversely when recently reviewing the Grieg/Tchaikovsky concertos recorded by Peter Jablonski and Peter Maag, and the present disc can be unreservedly recommended.

□ **ALFVEN**
Swedish Rhapsodies 1-3; Legend of the Skerries; Elegy
Iceland SO/Sakari
Chandos 9313 ★★★

IF YOU have not yet made the acquaintance of Hugo Alfvén's music, delay no longer. Born in 1872, Alfvén was for many years Sweden's leading exponent of national Romanticism, even if in later life (he died only in 1960) his conservative idiom no longer found such general favour.

The company that has done most for Alfvén is the Swedish one BIS, which has recorded all five of his symphonies. The music on the present disc is a useful introduction, however, containing as it does the three Swedish Rhapsodies, which show respectively the lighter, more boisterous and more reflective sides of his musical character.

The First Rhapsody ("Midsummer Vigil"), though the best-known (its catchy melody will probably sound familiar), is the least characteristic. But the Third (the "Dalecarlian" Rhapsody) taps a more melancholy vein, thus preparing the emotional ground for the wonderful Legend of the Skerries, an evocatively lyrical depiction of a sea scene by moonlight, exquisitely scored, by turns brooding and passionate. The concluding Elegy from the Gustav Adolf II Suite, a moving piece of autumnal resignation, is familiar to Swedes from its use at official memorial functions.

The Iceland Symphony Orchestra, making its seventh Chandos recording under Petri Sakari, plays all these works with evident affection and admirably refined tone.

JAZZ

Clive Davis

■ **RUBY BRAFF & HIS QUARTET**
Live at the Regattabar
Arbors ARCD-19131 ★★★

LET me put my neck on the block, and say that no quartet of the past 20 years, regardless of category, has displayed as much melodic flair and vitality as the band that Ruby Braff put together with the guitarist George Barnes. What made the partnership the more remarkable was that the two men made no secret of their hearty dislike of each other. The relationship would have made ideal material for one of Billy Wilder's jaundiced comedies. Since their parting, Braff has made no end of stylish and unusually consistent recordings, from duets with pianist Dick Hyman to a wonderfully poised trio with Howard Alden and more extrovert performances with a quintet given the colourful, olde worlde title of New England Songhounds. On this session, taped at a venue in Harvard Square, he has returned to the Barnes format, his cornet balanced against the guitars of Gray Sargent and John Wheatley and the bass of Marshall Wood.

If neither Sargent nor Wheatley are quite a match for Barnes's playfulness and unpredictability, they still do an excellent job of keeping step with the leader. Across 11 tracks, the level of invention scarcely falters, and the absence of a piano and drums in the rhythm section never seems a burden. The players, in fact, take every advantage of the extra room for manoeuvre.

Braff is still digging up long-forgotten show tunes, his playing mysteriously untouched by the passage of time; perhaps because he has always concentrated on subtlety rather than brute aggression. Some listeners, I know, find him over-decorative. There are numbers here that bear one rococo flourish too many, but I cannot think of any other trumpet or cornet player blessed with such mastery of tone and nuance. He may not raise his voice in great waves of passion; he is content to leave that to others. To hear a Braff solo is to hear a great songwriter humming to himself.

□ **SONNY FORTUNE**
Four In One
Blue Note CDP 828243 ★★

DOES the world need another tribute to Thelonious Monk? When a saxophonist as astute — and underrated — as Sonny Fortune steps forward with a thoughtful programme, the answer is yes. Steering clear of the over-familiar (no "Round Midnight", no "Straight No Chaser") his forceful bop phrasing brings out the full, idiosyncratic flavour of "Criss Cross", "Pannonica" and "Hackensack".

POP ALBUMS

David Sinclair

■ **SHANE MACGOWAN AND THE POPES**
The Snake
ZTT/WEA 4509-98104 ★★

WHILE the Pogues have faltered without him, Shane MacGowan returns with a debut solo album which fully recaptures the boisterous spirit of his former group in their heyday.

His hopelessly garbled attempts at hitting the note still function as little more than an apology for a singing voice, but MacGowan's marvellous, punk-Celtic tunes and richly spun lyrics of drunken derring-do are as inspired as ever. Typical of the album's exuberant charm is "A Mexican Funeral in Paris", a rollicking tale of gangsters and drug smugglers, propelled by the blast of a mighty horn section where the chorus ought to be.

There are fast, bawdy reels such as "Donegal Express" and slow, lilting tales of love not so much lost as squandered ("The Song With No Name"). And, inevitably, there is a preponderance of drinking songs, including the riotous hit single, "That Woman's Got Me Drinking", which offers reliable evidence that on a good night MacGowan is able to count up to ten.

They don't come much more prodigal, so MacGowan's return to such inspired active duty is all the more welcome.

POP SINGLES

David Sinclair

■ ***MUSIC RELIEF '94***
"What's Going On"
Jive RWANDA CD1 ★★

WITH the tenth anniversary of the Band Aid single, "Do They Know It's Christmas?", looming, an all-star cast of about 30 artists has assembled to ask another timely question, this time on behalf of victims of the Rwanda crisis. Among the performers donating their services under the banner of Music Relief '94 are D:Ream, Nik Kershaw, Paul Young, Mark King (of Level 42), Worlds Apart, Yazz, Larry Adler and Beverley Craven. Together they have come up with a serviceable version of the late Marvin Gaye's song "What's Going On".

Beverley Craven: crisis aid

Though an American hit for Gaye in 1971, the song has had only a minor brush with the British chart, when a Cyndi Lauper version scraped in at No 57 in 1987. With artists, publishers, producers, engineers and manufacturers all waiving fees and profits, let's hope it fares better this time.

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George Plumptre, The Times Gardener, on the furore over the landscape of Kenwood in London

Points of view

This is the time for afternoon walks to enjoy the autumn colours before dreary winter darkness sets in. There are few sites within urban London which are more rewarding for walkers than the park and gardens around Kenwood House, on the north edge of Hampstead Heath, and beloved by thousands as a rural oasis.

For most of this year, however, Kenwood's peaceful acres have been the subject of a battle between English Heritage, to whom custody of Kenwood passed in 1986 on the abolition of the Greater London Council, and opponents of the alterations to the landscape — some already carried out, others planned.

Since 1925, when part of the grounds were first opened to the public, Kenwood's landscape has changed inexorably from being the private domain of a country gentleman to a public park. It is not known how many people visit the grounds, because they are open free of charge, but it is certainly hundreds of thousands.

It is this number of visitors and the affection which many of them, especially locals, feel for Kenwood, which set alarm bells ringing at English Heritage this summer. In the previous two years it had spent £1 million on "conservation and repair work" at Kenwood, in addition to the £150,000 annual maintenance costs. Much of the work, such as dredging the lakes and restoring ornamental bridges, was popular. Some, such as tree-felling and the replacement of old, split-chestnut paling fences with rabbit-proof netting, aroused opposition.

Faced with the need to launch an appeal to fund the rest of the proposed restoration, and with noisy opposition led by the pressure group Kenwood Trees, English Heritage halted the work and announced a period of consultation.

An exhibition in the orangery at Kenwood House and the production of an impressive booklet/questionnaire, called "Caring for Kenwood", have emphasised the extent to which English Heritage is now canvassing public opinion.

The period of consultation is about to close, and the last of three public meetings, each chaired by the head of English Heritage, Jocelyn Stevens, will be on October 27 (details right). After that, people have until November 11 to return completed questionnaires, and English Heritage will draw up a management plan for Kenwood, which will supposedly incorporate the majority view expressed in the questionnaires.

JULIET PURSELL
Kenwood Trees group

"UNTIL last June, our disagreement with English Heritage centred on the historic restoration and the lack of consultation. The new consultation process has raised public awareness, and we are thrilled with Jocelyn Stevens's response. Once the results of the questionnaire are published, we see our role as consultative during the drawing up of the management plan. Our involvement will not stop with the publishing of the questionnaire.

"At public meetings, I was surprised how often the subjects of hoggin paths and fences came up, rather than trees. On the future, I feel that the main views are all there — we love and cosset the pasture ground copse. I do not see the need to open up the dairy view of the lakes.

"We are after sensitive management and keeping the general character, tranquillity and intimacy."

JOCELYN STEVENS
English Heritage

"WHEN English Heritage took on Kenwood it was not a landscape at risk but a landscape and garden in need of a management plan. Half-way through carrying out the plan, new opposition arrived. Since then, my sympathy for them has grown; they were motivated more by fear of the unknown than by blind preservation. Once you establish a process of public consultation a sort of consensus develops. The danger area is trees, but the management cannot allow trees to be sacred.

"Why can't we leave well alone? Because it would not be well for long." On the success and probable outcome of the consultation process: "Visitors have been giving their views about what should happen to the landscape. I think the consensus will be to maintain the balance of woodland and grassland."

English Heritage's plans include restoring the flower garden (now lawn), opening up major views which have become obscured by tree planting, especially during the 1950s, and thinning the birch woodland which has encroached on the meadows by self-seeding. All the proposed changes are itemised in the booklet "Caring for Kenwood".

By going through such a detailed process of consultation, English Heritage would appear to be accepting that the future management of Kenwood will be on the basis of public consensus.

The Kenwood Trees group, the leading opponent of the proposed changes, is now involved in the planning of Kenwood's future. While it has toned down the presentation of its message, its leaflet still states that it sees no need for any of the changes proposed by English Heritage.

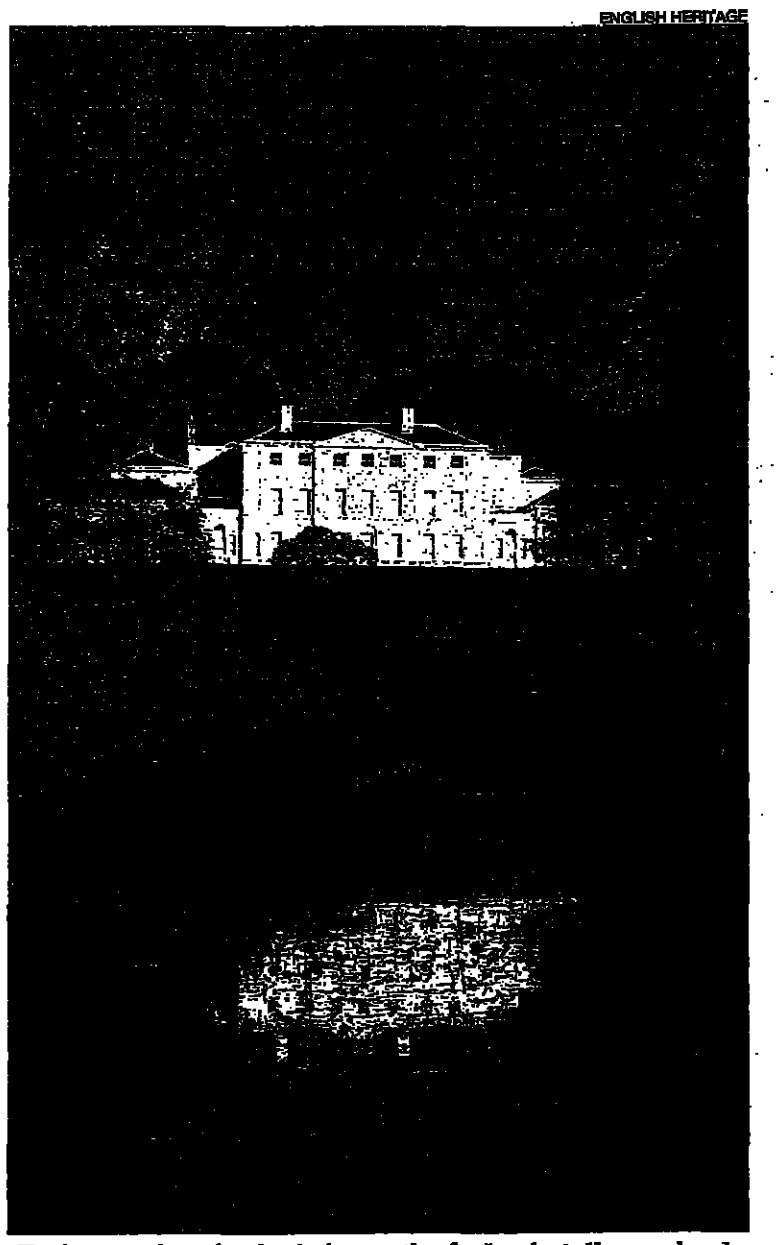
It would, however, be an indictment of English Heritage's custodianship to allow management by consensus to develop into a negative compromise. Mr Stevens dismisses this. Agreeing that in the past English Heritage deserved its reputation for what he calls "conservation fundamentalism, or heritage in aspic", he wants Kenwood to be "an exemplar of an estate taken on in a mess and brought round and managed for the future by those who care about it".

The wider implications are confirmed by the forthcoming announcement that English Heritage is setting up a Gardens and Landscape Advisory Committee, which will have the powers and a grant-offering budget similar to its four existing committees — London, Churches and Cathedrals, Historic areas and Buildings, and Ancient Monuments.

Many of the changes at Kenwood, such as the disappearance of the flower garden, and the separation of the park into two main areas by the screen of holly hedge and trees along the inner circuit walk, are so long established that they probably cannot be reversed. But those who see Kenwood as a country oasis should remember that it is a man-made oasis, and that the wear and tear from its thousands of visitors needs active, long-term management.

● *The final public meeting will be at Haverstock School, NW3, at 7.30pm on October 27. Further information on this, guided walks and copies of "Caring for Kenwood" can be obtained from English Heritage at Kenwood House, or by calling 081-348 1286. Kenwood Trees can be contacted on 071-482 1305.*

ENGLISH HERITAGE



To change or leave be: that is the question for London's Kenwood park

WEEKEND TIPS

- *Vegetables such as celeriac, beetroot and carrot are ready for lifting and storing in a box of sand or soil in a cool, frost-proof shed.*
- *Repair or lay new hard paths; work which needs mortar must be done before the danger of hard frost.*
- *Lift dahlia tubers and store upside-down for a week so that water runs out of the stems. Store the tubers in a frost-free place ready for division and replanting next spring.*
- *Keep leaves off crowns of plants such as meconopsis to avoid rotting.*

GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON
replies to readers' letters

Q **I have a small vineyard from which I make wine for home consumption. This year I have had a problem with ladybirds hibernating in the Madeleine Sylvaner and Müller-Thurgau grapes. I cannot use insecticides or even flush the ladybirds out with water without affecting the grapes, which this year are superb. What can I do?** — Ruth Pickles, St Albans, Hertfordshire.

A The short answer appears to be to spread out the picked bunches in a warm, moist place for a few hours, perhaps with polythene over them, and stir the ladybirds into waking. Then tempt them away with a bright cloth soaked in a sugar solution on to which they might crawl or fly.

Q **The *Phygelius capensis*, Cape figwort, in my garden always reappears when I have cleared a patch of it for replanting with something else. Is there any way of containing it without using a brushwood killer in case this damages surrounding plants and bulbs, which it smothers.** — Mrs P. Snow, Newton Ferrers, Devon.

A In fact, brushwood killers, such as SBK, are probably going to be your answer. Dig out what you can first, then apply the chemical to the fresh regrowth with heavy-duty rubber gloves, rather than a spray. Your other plants will be unharmed, so long as no drips fall on them. Several treatments will be necessary, and you may do better to try more than one chemical. Treat the shoots as soon as they are growing strongly, so that the plant cannot renew its strength.

The sister species, *Phygelius aequalis*, will also spread, but makes more of a solid clump and is more useful in the garden. It is not possible to grow much under *P. aequalis*.

All phygelius can be grown inside a deep ring of corrugated iron if they are a threat, but this seems extreme for a plant which is less than fully hardy.

Q **I am told that seeds from *Carpenteria californica* are used as capers for caper sauce. Is this true, and safe? I always thought nasturtium seeds were used for this purpose.** — Mrs J.C. Church, Alnwick, Northumberland.

A True capers are pickled flower buds, not seeds. They come from a Mediterranean shrub called *Capparis spinosa*. Nasturtium seeds look similar and are occasionaly used as a poor substitute. *Carpenteria* seeds from the hydrangea family are not known for their edibility. Eaten in quantity, they can cause poisoning.

● *Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend,* The Times, *1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.*

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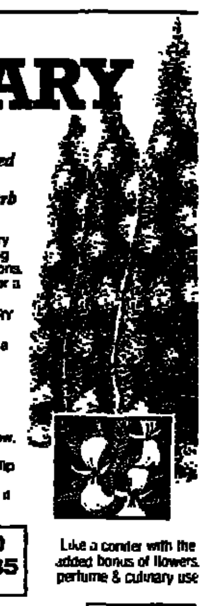

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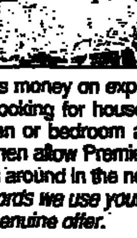

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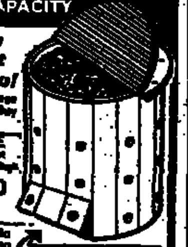

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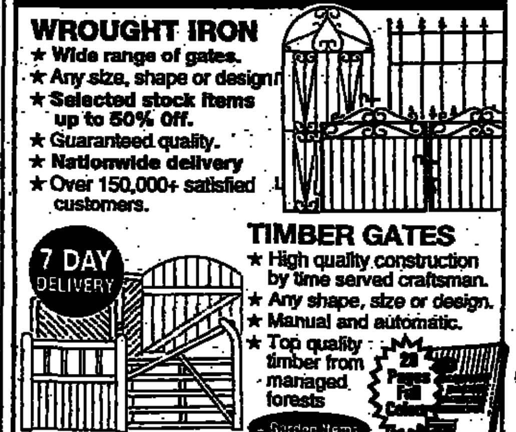

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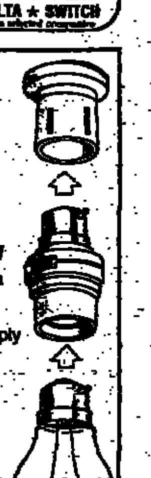

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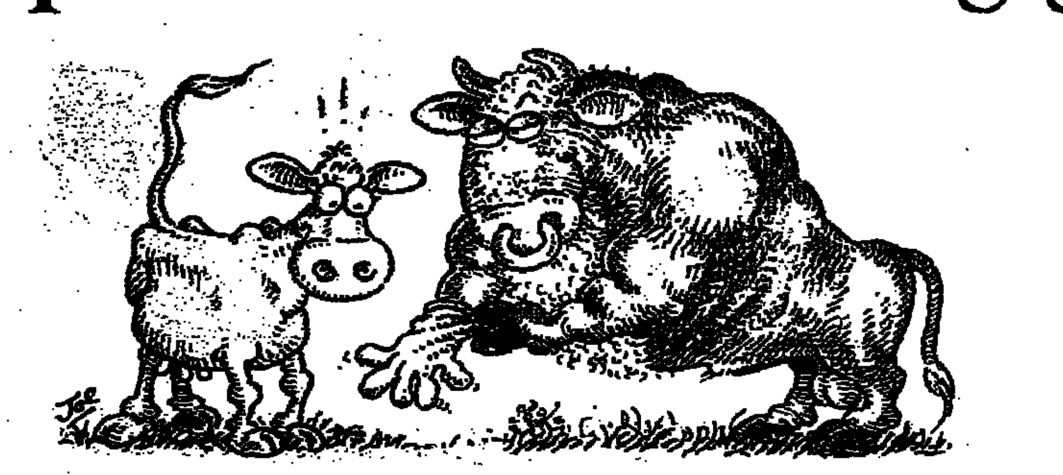
Porky pies and the mating game

FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY



I never thought that such journalistic shame would ever fall upon my innocent shoulders. I am truly sorry and must confess. In this newspaper, the great Journal of Record, I have caused there to be published an untruth; not a little bit of a fib, not a tiny white lie, but a bulky Large Black lie. A real-life porky pie.

Alice, the Large Black sow, has *not fallen* for the charms of Murphy, the Large Black boar, as I reported some weeks ago. It was simply not true.

I know this because three weeks after the alleged *mating*, Alice came "on song" again, and it was no little madrigal that she performed in hushed voice. No, she came "on song" like a roaring Rhinemaiden at Covent Garden, or a pier-end contralto on her benefit night.

So if Alice had *not fallen for* Murphy's charm the first time round, what was all that fuss about? *The midnight* groaning, squealing and shrieking the last time they were supposed to have mated could be heard all over the parish, and the following morning neighbours gave me a knowing nod. I was sure that the boy had finally got his girl.

Now they're at it again: coy little *squeals of joy, shrieks of pain as* they plunge their teeth into each other, then a silence, and possibly a roar. It is as if they have taken the entire emotional content of a marriage and acted *it out in* five minutes. It is not that he is incapable, because we have a fine litter by him. So it must be her.

Alice is not the only one to lead me a merry song and dance. We have a heifer called Empress. She, you may remember, was the founding female *member of* what was named *"The Times* Herd of Red Poll Cattle". She was the first heifer bred by us on this farm and, having been fathered by a champion bull and and being a good example of her kind, we have been harbouring high hopes of great things from her.

Most heifers are put into calf at the age of two, and I started out on this process *almost a year ago,* when the Empress was at precisely the right age. However, we do not keep a bull here and, as we have had some success with artificial insemination in the past, I decided to be something of a killjoy *and ordered that the Empress's* fling would be with a man with a rubber glove and not with a massive, manly creature of a red bull. *She* duly came "a 'bulling", *nuzzled the others, allowed them to* ride her, and showed all the classical symptoms of being ready for a mate. We drove her into the yard, secured her, and waited for the man with his test tube.

It was a solemn moment; we *were witnessing the founding of a* dynasty. In years to come, I dreamed, men would look at the magnificent *Times* herd and marvel *at how it all started: but we, of* course, would remember because we had been there, the moment it happened.

But did it heck? We might as *well have left the heifer on the* meadow and poured the contents of the tube down the drain for all the good it did. Three weeks later, she was at it again: kissing, licking, jumping.

Into the yard she came, up the drive came the rubber-gloved *father of creation, three weeks* later she was bulling again with such eagerness and vigour that it *looked as though it would have* taken a whole herd of buffalo to cool her passion.

And so another key member of the farm has brought this proud journal's name into disrepute. I am expecting a call any minute from the editor suggesting I re*name them the "Beano* Herd" to prevent further embarrassment.

As a last resort, I have hired a bull. He has come from a herds*man down the road who also runs* our local fish and chip shop. There is no doubt this is indeed a massive bull, with a neck as thick as that of a champion wrestler, and a man*hood that is, well, very plain* for all to see.

The Empress is in the yard with him now. And I have to say, for a virgin heifer who has only known *the gentle caress of the AI man's* rubber glove, she is a very forward young thing. No sooner was the *bull* in the yard than she *had* her head down and was, er, . . . well, if she'd tried it in a Range Rover in a lay-by off the A1, she would have been in dead trouble.

Let us hope this does the trick. I have warned her that a cow that will not bear calves is of little use, and that the *bull's owner says his* chip shop does a roaring trade in beefburgers.

He says pork sausages are going down well, too; a fact I shouted to Alice and Murphy as they were settling down to their evening cocoa. This, I hope, will stir them all up a bit.

Biking high over England

The challenge of Britain's first coast-to-coast cycle route

RONALD FAUX

Tackling the long climb to Cumbria's bleak Hartside Height on the way to Alston makes one wish for a motorcycle rather than a mountain bike

The Coast to Coast walk promoted by the late walker and writer Alfred Wainwright across northern England from St Bees in Cumbria to Robin Hood's Bay in North Yorkshire has become, perhaps, the most *popular ramble in* Britain. The country's first national cycle route from the same coast to coast follows a different route along 140 miles of *bridleways, byways and* disused railway tracks, and promises to be as popular.

Devised by Sustrans, the Bristol-based charity developing *sustainable means* of transport, the "C2C" route follows a line of small blue signs from Workington or Whitehaven through the Lake District and over the Pennines to Sunderland in Tyne & Wear.

The route was launched this *summer* by 20 cyclists *from* Denmark, where the highest hill would barely count as a pimple beside Hartside, Dowgang Hush or the grind up Flinty Fell above Garrigill. What the Danes thought as they puffed their way across this magnificent *wilderness is* not on record; few routes could be more different from Denmark. But eventually the route may connect by ferry to the *Danish cycle path that leads to* Copenhagen.

The Whitehaven option begins unpromisingly in a council estate at Mirehouse, which *is quickly left behind after* taking the line of an old railway. This winds its way to Rowrah on 12 miles of narrow tarmac where steam engines *once clattered.* Metal sculptures reflecting the area's industrial past decorate the way.

A west-to-east crossing is best, to take advantage of the *prevailing wind, which at* times can feel like a helping hand. Downhill runs are longer in this *direction,* too.

The first few miles slip quickly by as the old railway route takes the line of least resistance, but ahead loom the *dark summits of the* Cumbrian fells. At Kirkland, the *exclusive track ends at an arch* and a route of well-marked byways winds around Loweswater and through the beautiful Vale of Lorton.

The first real hill climb is from High Lorton through Scales, to the summit of Whinlatter Pass. Here the C2C route dives into a plantation on the south side of the road and Forestry Commission tracks drop into Keswick.

I used a mountain bike with road tyres, which handled the variety of surfaces well. A tent, *lightweight sleeping bag and* inflatable mattress took care of accommodation along the way, though there are plenty of pubs, B&Bs and youth *hostels as alternatives if you* prefer to travel light.

From Keswick, the route passes the Castlerigg stone circle near Goosewell Farm, with fine views from the neolithic stones across Blencathra and Skiddaw. An old coach *road runs beneath Wolf Crags* and then drops into the gentler scenery of the villages around Penrith. The Lakeland hills are behind, but the Pennines loom as a high, brown barrier.

Climbing the long drag to the café at Hartside summit *(2,046ft) made me wish for one* of the powerful motorcycles that flashed by in a whine of gears. But the real physical challenge of the C2C begins at Garrigill, where the route crosses the South Tyne river and climbs steeply up on to *wild moorland,* where care is needed if the weather is anything less than fair.

For the next 30 miles or more, the route is across some of the wildest terrain in Britain, via *the old mining* communities of Nenthead and Allenheads and across Hunstanworth Moor. The former Stanhope and Tyne railway, built by the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company in 1834, carrying limestone from Stanhope and coal from the Tyne, now forms a bridleway called Waskerley Way.

I found the starting point here elusive. A farmer had apparently developed a dislike for cyclists and blocked the path, but a small diversion soon allowed a rejoin and the pathway wound its quiet route through the industrial heart of the North East.

Many diversions are possible to museums, historical sites and nature reserves as the C2C links with the Consett *and Sunderland* railway path and the Penshaw-Pallion path before reaching Sunderland.

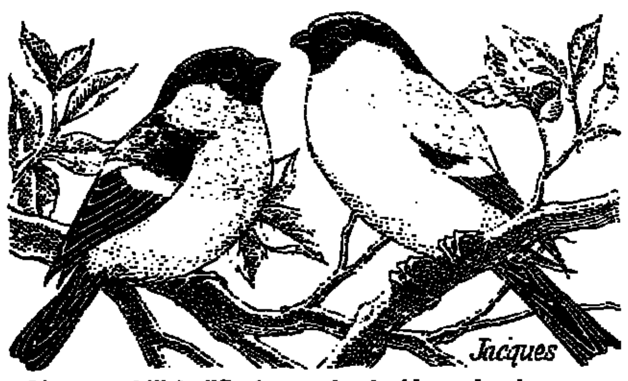
A greater challenge is in store: it is hoped to extend the C2C via the Tyne cyclist-pedestrian tunnel to Newcastle, from where ferries sail to Esbjerg *and* a cycleway across Denmark to Copenhagen.

RONALD FAUX

Ronald Faux takes a breather during his coast-to-coast ride

● The coast-to-coast cycle ride could be covered in three days of hard pedalling but that would ignore much of the route's charm: five days would allow a much more enjoyable pace and time to visit the many interesting sites along that way. It is advisable to take with you the five Landranger Ordnance Survey maps covering the route. For a free booklet describing the cycle route, send an s.a.e to the C2C Trail Office, Sustrans, Rockwood House, Barn Hill, Stanley, Co. Durham DH9 8AN (0207 281259).

Feather report



Licence to kill: bullfinches are loathed by orchard owners

Shy little bullies

A LOW piping note in the bushes tells you that a bullfinch is there. But it is a shy bird and you may get only a glimpse of a white rump flitting through the branches. That is true even in spring.

A charming poem by Thomas Hardy begins, "Brother bullies, let us sing" — but this is misleading, because bullfinches are the only small English birds that scarcely sing at all.

They do not normally defend a territory in the breeding season — they just get on with nesting — so there is no need in spring for the male to perch on a conspicuous twig, as a *chaffinch does, and sing its* heart out to warn off other males.

The male bullfinch is a fine sight. His breast is a deeper pink than the chaffinch's; his back is a soft grey and he has a black cap that tilts just over his beak.

The female has the black cap but is otherwise a brownish-grey. She is usually nearby and the pair pipe frequently to *each other to keep in touch.*

In autumn they feed on birch catkins and dried-up blackberries; as winter comes they turn to the brown seeds dangling on the bare branches of the ash trees.

But these food supplies often run out by the New Year and they then start eating buds on fruit trees. Pears, plums, cherries and gooseberries are all attacked. They eat the small embryonic centre of each bud, the part that would otherwise turn to fruit, and drop the rest.

This means that the birds are hated by orchard owners, and in counties such as Kent and Essex commercial fruit-growers can get a licence to trap and kill them between November 1 and April 30. (Ordinary gardeners find it more *difficult to get* permission.) The usual practice is to trap the birds at the beginning of winter in the hope that with fewer birds around the natural food will last until spring.

However, the bullfinches suffer from this less than might be thought. According to the Ministry of Agriculture only 326 of them were taken last year — and some of these may not have been killed, *because the fruit-growers* are allowed to sell them or give them away for breeding in captivity.

There has been a good seed harvest this year, so the bullfinches may have less need to ravage the orchards.

They are also well prepared for the winter, as their plumage at this time of the year is heavier than in the summer. This means is that their feath*ers altogether* weigh one-and-a-half grams now, compared with one gram before the moult — but that *half-gram* makes all the difference to them. It is easy to forget how light most birds are.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** Birders — *fieldfares will soon be moving in from the continent.* Twitchers — *yellow-browed bunting at St Agnes, Isles of Scilly; red-flanked bluetails at Great Yarmouth Cemetery, Norfolk. Details from Birdline, 0891 700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate. 50p at all other times.*

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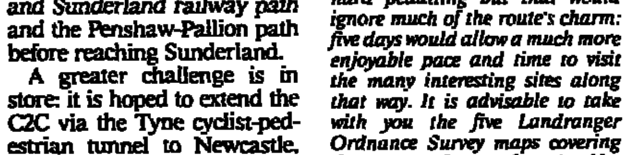

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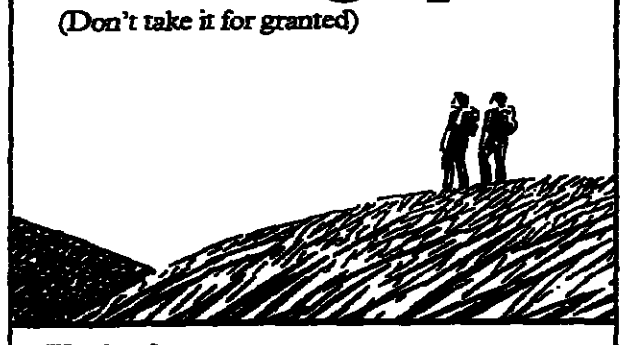

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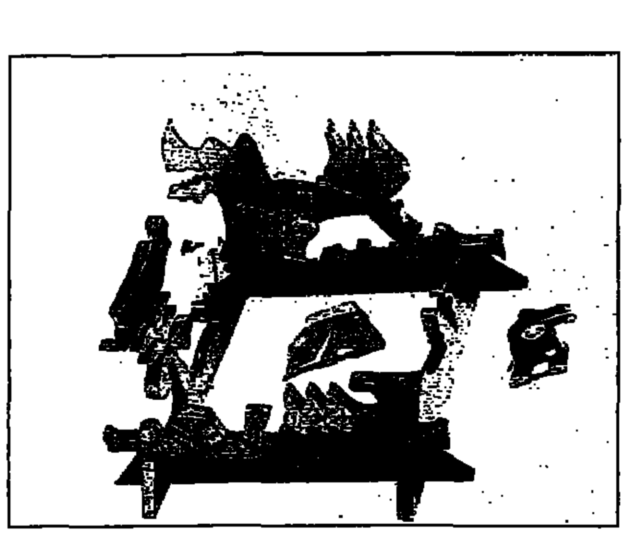
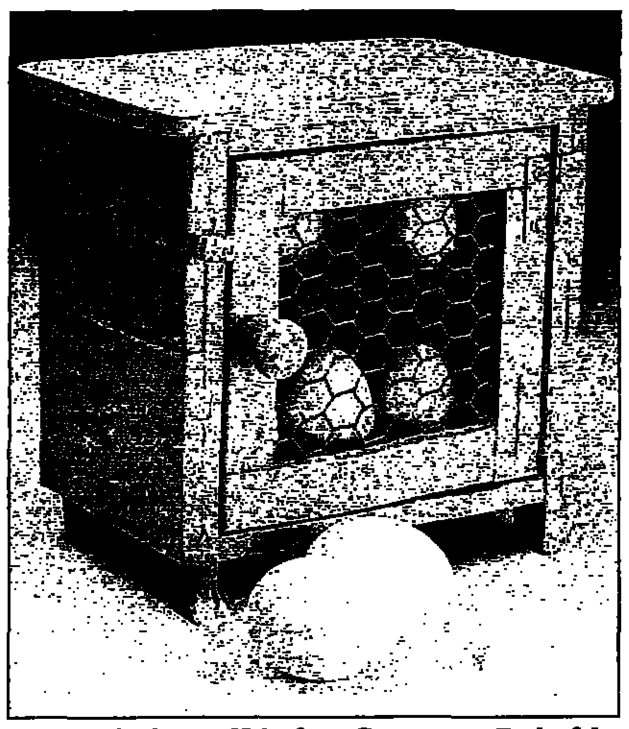
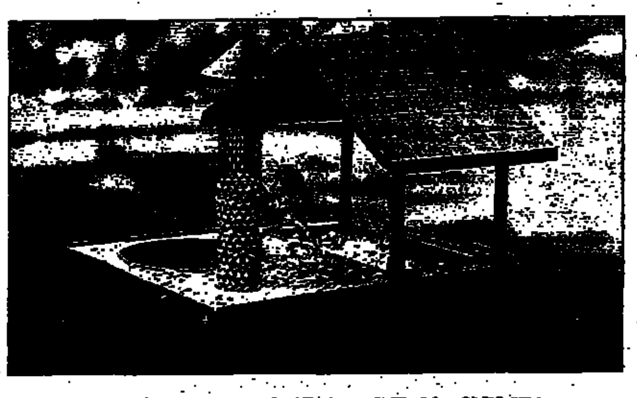
Present ideas from charities







Top (centre): 3-D Jungle Jigsaw, £8.95, from Greenpeace. Each of the 11 animal and tree pieces stands up so children can create their own jungle scenes. Above: the painted wooden egg cupboard can hold up to 12 eggs, £34.95, from The National Trust. Top right: a selection of embroidered cushion covers made in India and Bangladesh, £12.95 to £16.95, from Oxfam. Right: recycled glass storage jars, £11.99 for set of three, from the World Wide Fund for Nature. Far right: the Birds' Paradise table has compartments for food and drink, £21.95, from Help the Aged

Above: use a painted metal seahorse hook (30cm), £5.99, from The Notting Hill Housing Trust, to brighten up a kitchen or bathroom

The latest Christmas charity catalogues are full of stylish gifts

The shiny charity gift catalogues which arrive through the door are the harbingers of Christmas. Time was when a flick through their pages revealed a tired selection of gifts such as beaded cotton-lace jug toppers, lap desks, and car seat covers that massage your thighs. This year's avalanche still includes such esoteric items, but some charities are wooing sophisticated, design-conscious shoppers eager to support a good cause in their seasonal shopping binge.

One of the most attractive of this new genre of charity catalogues comes from Friends of the Earth. The booklet is printed on recycled paper and features eco-friendly gifts featuring endangered tribes and animals. A range of starfish and shell-shaped jewellery is inspired by the creatures of the sea. The choker, (£32.50), starfish earrings (£14.50) and hairclip (£17.50) are made from lead-free pewter. A box of eight tallow-free hand-dipped candles (£9.95) with unbleached cotton wicks will light the Christmas table. Baby earth-lovers will enjoy an organic soft toy puppy (£24.95), a bunny (£14.95) or whale (£9.95) made from pesticide-free unbleached cotton.

Greenpeace, a campaign rather than a charity, has a catalogue with the same eco-friendly slant. Textured writing paper handmade from Thai mulberry bark comes in sets of 20 sheets and envelopes (£5.95). *The World In Your Kitchen* cookbook (£12.99) could point the way to a meat-free New Year with dishes recreated from Africa, Asia and Latin America. The jungle jigsaw (£8.95) is a brightly painted puzzle that deft children can easily turn into 3-D jungle scenes.

Trinket pot, £12.50, from Breakthrough

The Notting Hill Housing Trust has cotton throws with a pretty sunflower or seashell design (£59.99) which can be used to cover a chair or keep your knees warm. Tiny blue glass perfume bottles decorated with filigree (£6.99) could stuff a stocking, while the painted metal fish-shaped hooks (£5.99) hold kitchen or bath towels.

Bright, colourful and imaginative, the catalogue from the World Wide Fund for Nature includes clothing such as zebra leggings (£11.50) and T-shirt (£12.99) and a leopard T-shirt (£14.99). A cotton and linen knit sweater comes in three sizes (£51.99). For wildlife lovers there is an impressive tiger sculpted in crystal by Mats Jonasson (£94.99). For practical storage, a set of three glass jars (£11.99) would suit the kitchen, bathroom or even dressing table.

The National Trust catalogue has always been reliable. Many of its gifts are inspired by National Trust properties and holdings. For keen gardeners, a Sissinghurst watering can (£19.95), a replica of Vita Sackville-West's Ludlow waterer, would add a touch of the stately home to any garden. Outdoor candles shed light and their citronella fragrance deters insects. The rustic-looking bucket candle burns for 50 hours (£11.75), the mug candle burns for 15 (£8.50). A delightful egg-holder made to look like a hen-house holds a dozen eggs (£34.95). The traditional Christmas pudding is a perennial favourite for £5.95.

Shelter, the National Campaign for Homeless People, has a range of earthenware designed for it by Repeat Repeat. The white-glazed nursery set has blue house motifs and alphabet designs on the bowl and mug (£17.50 for the pair). A large teapot by the same designers features houses and birds (£18.95).

Breakthrough, which raises money for breast cancer research, has a tiny catalogue of 15 items. A pretty round trinket box (£12.50), hand-painted with Breakthrough's signature crocus motif, was specially commissioned for the charity. A lambswool scarf from Ayr is available in soft crocus purple (£7).

The Age Concern catalogue has a range of attractive items that can make household work easier for older people. An extra-strong shopping trolley with a waterproof cover converts into a luggage trolley (£28.95). It weighs just over 5lbs and folds down to a fraction of its size. A German-made safety flask will not spill when knocked over, and looks good on the table (£19.99). For bird-lovers, the Birds' Paradise bird table has nut feeder and food and drink compartments (£21.95).

Oxfam's catalogue puts an ethnic twist on many seasonal favourites. For instance, its Christmas hampers feature foods that are fairly traded and produced by small-scale farmers. The giant hamper includes teas, coffees, chocolate, nuts, dried fruits and Chilean wine, all in an African palm-leaf basket (£45).

A kadahari runner carpet made by refugees in Pakistan has a story woven into its colourful pattern (£225), and there is a selection of embroidered cushion covers from India and Bangladesh, £12.95 to £16.95.

The Woodland Trust's tiny catalogue features a solid silver tree brooch (£23.95).

Even the more traditional catalogues are sprinkled with interesting items, such as the British Red Cross's kite in a bag (£19.95) for trips to foreign beaches, or Save the Children's Indonesian carved-wood cat stool (£42).

Different charities have their own way of calculating profits from catalogue sales but generally the amount they take varies from 15 per cent to 65 per cent.

With choices like these, a discerning eye and a generous spirit will be satisfied by many of the latest charity catalogues.

DENISE ELPHICK AND NANCY PATTON WOOD

Charity Christmas catalogues

- ☐ Age Concern, PO Box 28, London N18 3HG (081-807 7744)
- ☐ Breakthrough, PO Box 2JP, London W1P 2JP (071-405 5111)
- ☐ British Red Cross, Britcross, PO Box 28, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LQ (0283 506109)
- ☐ Friends of the Earth, Helston, Cornwall TR13 0TE (0209 831989)
- ☐ Greenpeace, PO Box 10, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear NE8 1LL (0191 491 0033)
- ☐ Oxfam Trading, PO Box 72, Bicester, Oxon OX6 7LT (0869 245011)
- ☐ National Trust, PO Box 101, Melksham, Wiltshire SN12 8EA (0225 704545)
- ☐ Notting Hill Housing Trust, Aspen House, 1 Gayford Road, London W12 9BY (081-563 5000)
- ☐ Save the Children, SCF Sales, PO Box 40, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LQ (0283 506600)
- ☐ Shelter, Shelter Trading, 88 Old Street, London EC1V 9HU (071-253 0202)
- ☐ Woodland Trust, Autumn Park, Dysart Road, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL (0476 74297)
- ☐ World Wide Fund for Nature, Queensbridge Works, Queen Street, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire DE14 3LP (0283 506105)

THE TIMES

Liberty unwraps an exclusive evening of Christmas shopping for readers of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*

The curtain rises on a glittering extravaganza of Christmas shopping staged exclusively for readers at Liberty stores nationwide on Wednesday November 23. The West End producer Cameron Mackintosh is helping the Regent Street store to celebrate the festive season with window displays based on shows including *Cats* and *Miss Saigon*. Musicians and performers will entertain shoppers as they explore the enormous variety of gifts on show.

The gift emporium will be decorated in a medieval theme, with rich colours and fabrics providing a backdrop for a vast array of gifts – some as traditional as Santa, others totally new.

The evening will feature special offers including a free £5 gift voucher for every £50 spent on the night. Visitors can take part in a prize draw, with a first prize of a £1,000 Liberty gift voucher and two tickets for the new production of *Oliver!* at the London Palladium, plus overnight accommodation at a London hotel. Ten runners-up will each receive two tickets for other Cameron Mackintosh shows.

Sample refreshments in the stores will include Tio Pepe sherry, Bombay Sapphire gin, Vittel and Perrier mineral waters and George Dickel and Canadian Club whiskies. *The Sunday Times* Wine Club will present tastings and suggest wines for your Christmas table.

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Cheltenham, 86 The Promenade;
Chester, 30 Bridge Street;
Edinburgh, 47 George Street;
Exeter, 227 High Street;
Glasgow, 127 Buchanan Street;
Guildford, in Army & Navy store, Market Street;
Kingston-upon-Thames, 21 Church Street;
Manchester, 16/18 King Street;
Norwich, 35 London Street;
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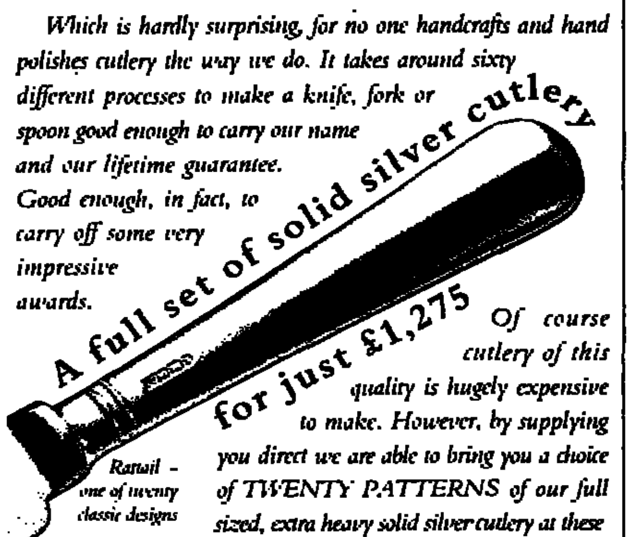

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CHELSEA HARBOUR RIVERSIDE PENTHOUSE
Spectacular views overlooking River Thames and marina. Three bed, three bath, living room with fireplace and gallery library, dining room, kitchen, study and cloakroom, marbled entrance hall. Health club and swimming pool, underground parking.
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£53,000
071 5895100 ext 239

For sale CHELSEA HARBOUR
Stunning 4th flr apt
Chelsea Cresc SW10
Harbour/river views lge dble aspect priv balc. hall, guest clk fit kit/brkf br, mst bed + e/s bath 2nd bed 2nd bath, spac L-shp. lnge/ ding, lft, v-entry, prtr 24hr sec-u/grnd pk Lse 118 yrs
£390,000 Tokyo Agency
071 935 1774 Mon-Sat

CHELSEA HOMESEARCH CO. Will find your central London Property : 071 937 2281.

HOLLAND PARK W11. Period property with 3 beds. 2 baths. 28ft gdn. £227,500. Leslie Marsh 071 221 4806.

WE CAN FIND the property you want. Simon Croft Property Consultants. 071-584-5004.

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MAYFAIR · Grosvenor Square, 3 bd flat, £275,000. Tel: 081 348 9913 or 071 262 5626.

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VIEWS Across to Buckingham Palace Gardens & Royal Mews, from light 5th (top) floor 2/3 bed. 1/2 rec. kit/break. newly fitted bathroom, simply redecorated. 109 yrs. OIRO £175,000. Hathaways, 77, Buckingham Gate, SW1. 071-222 3133

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Freehold
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£95,000
Tel: 071 724 4997 before 7pm

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MONTPELIER ROW, TWICKENHAM.
£465,000
A four bedroom two bathroom Victorian residence in enchanting location. 27'10 drawing room, 18' dining room, an abundance of period features, 81' secluded walled garden.
BLACK HORSE AGENCIES
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C18th grade II listed town house overlooking Green. 5 beds, 2 baths (1 en suite), clkrm, luxury German fitted kitchen, 3 lge recep, small walled patio garden, parking for 4 cars. Many fitted items included
Offers in excess of: £710,000
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Charminster, Coombe Hill Rd, Kingston.
Prestigious 5 bedroom 3 reception room residence with impressive gardens in this exclusive private estate.
£545,000
Open day 22nd and 23rd of October.
10 am to 6 pm
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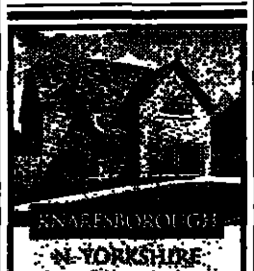
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0628 72009, 0628 31411.
£395,000

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DELIGHTFUL THATCHED COTTAGE.
Listed Grade II, secluded position, Conservation area, village property. 3 recep, 3 beds, dble gge. Features stone inglenook. Extensively beamed cottage. Gdn apprx 1/4 acre Kings X 50 mins. Close A1
OIRO £149,000
Tel: 0234 870 846. (Eves.)

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2/3 bedrooms, Gas CH, and Open Fire. Hand Crafted kitchen, thatched roof with garden in quiet lane in Conservation Area. Semi detached. M40 Access.
£185,000
Tel: Eve 0295 788 358.

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COVERACK, S Cornwall near Harbour Grade II listed 4 bedroom modernised character residence sea views. £142,500 Miller & Co 0326 563411

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DEVON & CORNWALL

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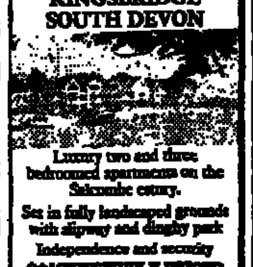
Only 4 remaining
THE MOORINGS
KINGSBRIDGE SOUTH DEVON

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Independence and security
COMPETITIVELY PRICED FROM £162,500
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£125,000.
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Grade II small thatched cottage. 3 beds. Kitchen/diner, living rm (17x12) with Inglenook fireplace & winding granite staircase. Beamed ceilings. Superb plantsman's gdn, 1 acre approx.
£148,000
Tel 06477 279

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Luxury flat. Magnificent sea views, fully carpeted, must be sold.
Just reduced to £69,950.
Ring for details
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Detached luxury individual bungalow. Minutes from main London line. 15 miles Southwold. Garden 3/4 of an acre, and garage.
£112,000
Further double garage available, £10,000
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2 bedroomed ground floor flat. Recent development only 5 years old. Fully appointed & furnished, f/f kitchen inc. w/machine, cooker etc. carpets, decoration as new. London, Liverpool Street 1 hr (BR)
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0787 375805
0850 618658

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DISS In traditional part of market town overlooking a green. Detached pair 17th century Listed cottages. 2 & 3 bedrms. Garden. Ref 2636 £49,950 & £59,950. Thos Wm Gane & Son Diss 0379 641341

ESSEX

WESTCLIFF-ON -SEA
Situated on Chalkwell Hall Estate a substantial 5 bed det. family home with en-suite shower room to master bed, ground floor has 2 recepts, Victorian style conservatory, lux. kit/breakfast, utility, downstairs wc. Externally there's a beautifully maintained rear garden with pond & well stocked flower, shrub borders. Front has dbl garage with gravel drive way
£290,000 F/H
For details tel Mr Argles
0702 78875/74290

GREAT BARDFIELD
Pre-Tudor listed cottage. 2 up, 2 down. Modern kitchen/bath. Superb timbers. Garden. No agents.
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NOUNSLEY
Renovated detached cottage. 8 miles NE Chelmsford. 5 beds. 3 receps. Many original features. Village location. Mainline Station. 1.5 miles (5 mins drive)
£199,950.
Tel: 0245 381273

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

HURLEY LLOYD THORPE
NR MORETON-IN-MARSH
Recently converted 3 receptions, kitchen /breakfast room, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, shower room. Garaging. Garden & Orchard. About 1 acre (more available).
Offers over £300,000
UPPER SLAUGHTER
Stone built single storey cottage, sitting room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, garage & garden.
£125,000
MORETON-IN-MARSH
3 new stone houses, reception room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Prices from £137,000 - £142,500.
TEL: 0451 830731

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SOUTH COAST - BARTON GREEN. Impressive detached 4 bed "Fairway Lodge". Panoramic views of golf course, Solent and Isle of Wight. £275,000. Tel: 0425 611958.

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luxury spacious new house just completed, built to the highest standard by well known Hampshire builder. 5 beds, 3 baths, 3 receptions, double garage, located in conservation area with river views and well placed for Moody Marina. NHBC 10 year guarantee £249,000. (reduced for prompt sale from £295,000)
Tel 0590 624115.

WOOLLEY & WALLIS
NEW FOREST
Period thatched cottage, with later extensions, standing in an elevated setting. 3 Receps, 5 Beds, 3 Baths, self contained annexe. Garage. Garden and Swimming Pool. Office & Studio.
Price Guide £310,000
(0425) 655900

SANDBANKS PENNINSULA
Poole Dorset.
A yachting families dream! Rare opportunity 4 bed detached house in brilliant position. Adjacent Royal Motoryacht Club only 200 yards from harbour and 5 minutes walk to the best beach in the UK. Fully furnished, rarely used 2nd home in immaculate condition.
£195,000.
Tel 0425 475670

BOURNEMOUTH
5 bed 4 recept. Substantial residence for sale. Luxury kitchen/brek room. Plot size approx 1 acre leading on to golf course with gate access to fairway. Circular drive, dbl garage to left, single to the right. Private sale.
ASKING £510,000
TEL 0202 783636

WINCHESTER very high specification new home. 4 double bedrooms + dressing area. 3 bath rms. 3 large receptions. dble gge. landscaped gdns. Walk to station & 5 mins M3. £290,000. Tel 0703 692982/692030.

HERTFORDSHIRE

COLONIAL STYLE
1982 chalet bungalow in just under 1 acre, in N/ West London on private Moor Park estate close to Met line stations; drawing rm, dining rm, study, 2 cloak rms, kit, util, 4 beds, 4 en suite baths, dble garage, wk shop, carriage driveway to front. £510,000.
Tel: 0923 823387.

HARPENDEN 7m. 6 bed period farmhouse. seperate cottage, stable yard. Outbuildings. About 2.75 acres £395,000. Lane Fox 0582 764343

KENT

KEMSING Sevenoaks. det fam hse. 3/4 bed 2/3 rec. spac kit/din. 2 bath. DGL. GCH. 100' walled gdn. dbl gge. views to downs £178,000. 0732 762304

LARGE VICTORIAN
house set in ¾ of an acre in Kent Green Belt, 20 miles London. 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 kitchens, 1 with red Aga, cellars, also self contained annex with 1 bed, bathroom, 2 reception and kitchen. £270,000.
Tel 0282 793682.

BELVEDERE KENT
Greater London. 3 Bed semi. GCH. Solar heating with fully insulated loft. Very large fitted office within house. Living room, fitted kitchen. Bathroom. Large new shed in Garden, patio. Outside walls recently fully insulated. Very cosy house
£67,995
0322 439503

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Individual det. house, corner position. Close Country park by sea. 3 Beds, nice views. Manageable gdns. Additional parking. M20 4 mins, Sainsburys 3 mins, Seacat 3 mins, station 5 mins. Cliff top walks 2 mins.
£89,950.
Tel 0303 255573

NR CANTERBURY
Charming Victorian headmasters house in courtyard development. 3 recep, 4 beds, kit, 2 baths & WC. Garden area. Private parking. Victoria 1 hour.
£135,000
Tel: 0233 740569

TENTERDEN
within easy walk of this popular town, spacious family house, 4 bedrooms, 4 receptions, en suite shower, bathroom, double garage, outbuildings, 3/4 acre garden, near golf course, leisure centre, Headcorn main line station 9 miles.
£230,000 freehold.
Tel 0580 764787

MARDEN -Grade 11 listed Period Barn, converted to highest standards. Oak Beamed. 20'x20' lounge. D.R., Oak Kitchen, Utility. W.C., Galleried Hall, 3/4 beds. 2 baths, Large Garden adjoining orchards. G.C.H., D.G., £178,000. Owlquest Ltd - 0622 817999 (office) 0622 832577 (eve/wknds).

OVERLOOKING THE CHANNEL. St Margarets Bay (Dover 5m.A2/M2 5m). A comfortable and well situated 5 bed house, with indoor swimming pool complex and far reaching views to France. Calcutt Maclean 0233 812060/ Marshall & Clarke 0304 852960.

LINCOLNSHIRE

NEAR SPALDING South Lincs £155,000. Excellently renovated. 4 bed det Georgian cottage of character. Two recepts, study, fitted kit, en-suite shower bathrm. 1900 sq ft commercial outbuildings. Nanny flat. In 2.5 acres. Dble gge. Unspoilt rural location. Easy access Midlands East Anglia & A1. As featured in House Beautiful. William H Brown (01775) 711711

MIDLANDS

IN THE HEART OF MELTON HUNT COUNTRY
Period farmhse beautifully restored standing alone with views over fabulous countryside 5 beds, 2 baths, numerous recs, staff cottage for devel. Stabling, numerous outbuildings. 2 acres paddock. Grantham BR 15 mins Kings Cross 1hr. £255,000.
0664 500057

NORTH EAST

ST JOHNS CHAPEL Weardale
Ideal holiday home in the picturesque North Pennines. 19th C. mid terrace cottage with accomadation on 3 flrs. 2 bedrms, modrn kitchen and bathrm, GCH. Original flagstoned basement lounge with roof beams & cast iron fire range. Panoramic views.
£44,000 ono
Tel: 0224 310261

NORTH WEST

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5 miles Manchester Airport
3.5 miles Motorway Network
1st flr flat, Own entrance
2 Beds, GCH, Own garage
Easy to run
£54,000
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CHESHIRE Little Leigh. Large barn, shell stage, ready for fitting out. excellent rural location by canal. 4 beds. 3 baths. cobbled courtyard. lge gdn. Many features. £98,000. 18/20 mins Manchester Airport. 0928 210822/ 0851 469800.

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LAKE DISTRICT. Near Coniston. Architect designed property in local stone. set in picturesque valley. 3/4 beds. Gdns Smiths Gore Carlisle 0228 46400

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Lane Fox
LEDWELL
Banbury 9 miles, Oxford 12 miles.
A CHARMING PERIOD SEMI-DETACHED COTTAGE in a popular attractive village. Sitting Room, Kitchen, 2 bedrooms, Bathroom, Small Garden. Garage. Region £75,000
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Oxford retiring academics, spacious property, stunning views, abundant wild life, only 3 miles from The High. 4 beds, large study library, Italianate garden, paddock, and 4 acres woodland.
£265,000
Tel 0865 62972

SCOTLAND

HIGHLANDS ROSS-SHIRE
Pretty chalet in 9 acre woodland, privately shared with similar properties; 2 beds, bath, kit/living rm. CH. Balcony, extensive loft. Ideally placed for golf, fishing, shooting, hill-walking, sailing.
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2 new character cottages, ideal for relocation/retirement/holiday, ready for occupation. Central village location, 1 mile fr beach/coast/hill walks. 13 miles M5. 3 beds, 2 recps, bath, en-suite, kit. all fitted CH, utility/wc, garage, gdns
£67,500 & £82,500.
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0984 632353 (fax)

STONE ALLERTON
Superior architect designed 5 bed country house in quiet village. Log burning fires in lrg lounge and living/kitchen. Dng rm, library, conservatory, utility, cloak rm. Dble garage, tack rm, log store, lge garden.
£280,000.
0934 843243.

SOMERSET Crewkerne & Chard. For details of det houses & bungalows, all with GCH frm £80-135,000 contact Charles Bishop Ltd on (0935) 22196

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Large det family hse built in 1952. Prestigous location, South facing rear garden o/looking Woodcote Park RAC Country Club & Golf Course. 4 bed, 4 reception rms incl large sun lounge. Ensuite & family bathrooms Total refurb to a high standard
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A development of 17 Courtyard Houses set in the grounds of an Historic Mansion House.
Accommodation ranges from 3 to 5 bedrooms, Prices from £147,500 to £249,550.
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(No Agents)

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Superior detached family house overlooking River Severn, 2,800 sqft, traditionally built 1988, ½ acre plot. South-facing, balcony, 5 beds, 2½ baths, oak beam lounge, dining rm, f/f oak b'fast/kit, utility, dbl garage, GCH, DG. Edge of Welsh borders market town, 30 miles Shrewsbury. Excellent state schools. End of private road.
Freehold £145,000
Tel: 0686 629596

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3-4 bedroomed bungalow 2nd bedroom en-suite, within 4 acres mixed woodlands. Beautiful rural surroundings. 4 car Gge. Lge summer-house. Oil CH. Dble glazing. Exc. cond. throughout.
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Enlarged Farmhouse, 4 bed, bathrm, shower rm, sitting rm, dining rm, sunlounge fully dble glazed with views over St Brides Bay. Oil Rayburn, full CH, Gardens, Outbuildings. Approx ½ acre
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No 1 Old Milverton Village. L/Spa Cottage; detached 4 bed, bath, shower rm, sep wc, utility, shed, garage, 2 rec. Open countryside.
£185,000.
Avonside. New Milverton. North Royal Leamington Spa.
4 bed, det, 2 garages, sep dining rm with spacious garden.
£98,950.
0926 330691.

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Superb built stone dormer bungalow. 4 reception rooms, 4 beds, close to the railway station and A1 A19 Trunk roads. Large gardens & open views.
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THE greater part of a Cotswold stone Georgian mansion nr Tetbury. 5 bedrms, 3 bathrms, (1 ensuite) large bright kitchen with Aga, drawing rm 20x30 ft, dining hall, library & study. A bright sunny house, good architectural details & friendly character. Some basic furniture, but room for plenty more. CH. Set in 3½ acres landscaped garden. Min let 6 mos. £1,800 pcm neg. Within 30 mins M4/M5.
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0753 528547 Office

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Georgian 5 bed 2 bath property , antique furnished, within 3 acres, pool, jacuzzi, sauna etc. Suffolk / Norfolk Boarder, 1hr 40 mins to London
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Geo Grade II Town Manor Hse. 2/3 acre Rm, 6 bed, 4 bath. 5 recep. Oak kit Aga. Orig. features. Large annexe, M.line Stat 5 mile. £2250
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OXFORDSHIRE · Kirtlington Attractive Georgian village hse Sitting rm (28x15) - open fire, lge din rm, oak kit/b'fast, 4 bds, bthrm, clkrm Lovely gdn. Fully furn. Oxford 10 mins. M40 4 mins £1,100 pcm 0869 350049

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Elegant first floor flat in quiet street off Kensington Gardens near two underground stations. Unusual lateral conversion set back in private garden. Two double bedrooms with bathrooms en suite, two reception rooms, antique furniture, 20 foot terrace, interior lift, fully equipped.
£500 per week minimum one year.
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30/40 mins from Marylebone/ Baker St. Detached luxury 4/5 bed house newly redecorated and new carpets. 2 baths (1 en suite), 2 lge open plan recep rooms leading to lge all weather conservatory. F/F kitchen, breakfast bar, utility, downstairs cloakroom, GCH. Dbl garage & lge mature garden. 5 mins from station & shops. Many schools handy. £2,000 f.furn (£1,800 unfurn)
Tel: 0923 283125 (H)
071 747 6290 (O)

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Newly constructed, period style farm house to rent 4 beds, 2 baths, 3 receps, large f/f kit. Breakfast rm, dbl garage, good sized garden, paddock avail for 2 horses if required. Rural setting, outstanding views, fully carpeted & curtained. 1½ mls from Borough Green main line station, 2 mls from M20/M26.
£1,200 pcm.
Tel 0732 882012 days
0622 843965 eves

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To let furnished till March, charming 4 bed house; fully fitted kitchen, perfect decoration with garden. Tube to City 6 mins walk.
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Immaculate spacious 2 double bedrooms to let. Superbly decorated and fully furnished. 24 hour porterage, cable TV. £450 per week inclusive.
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Barnes near Barnes Common. 4/5 beds, 3 reception (unfurnished) £2600 per month.
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Facing Hyde Park
Luxury ground floor 2 bedrm/2 bathrm flat, large recep, porter.
£400 pw ono.
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Build a yurt for that home sweet dome

CHARLIE VARLEY

Mr Wynne-Jones has sold yurts as business annexes, a hunting lodge, a buddhist retreat, and even as a rooftop feature on the Zurich stock exchange

Yurts are tent-like folding buildings used by the nomadic tribes of Asia. Will they catch on here? One man hopes so

When Hal Wynne-Jones returned from Turkey with a yurt he had learned to make there four years ago, he sold it to Liberty in London for £1,500. It was resold within two days.

The experience was enough to convince him that he could give up his job as a builder and make a living out of constructing yurts and teaching people how to build them.

Since then he has made and sold around 100 in this country and overseas. Mr Wynne-Jones describes himself as Britain's only full-time yurt maker; turning over £40,000 a year, he makes enough money to support his wife and two children.

What is a yurt? If it rings a vague bell cast your mind back to geography lessons about the nomadic people of the steppes of Asia. Their homes were yurts — felt-covered dome-shaped portable buildings with walls of folding trellis that could be erected and taken down very quickly.

For years the government of the former Soviet Union discouraged this kind of nomadic life, encouraging the yurt dwellers to live in blocks of flats in cities. Despite this the nomadic life of the yurt dwellers has not died out, and one of Mr Wynne-Jones's aims is to see if these lightweight, practical buildings can be adapted for use in this country.

Before his month-long trip to Turkey — another country where yurt dwellers have been officially discouraged — Mr Wynne-Jones had anticipated a use for yurts in this country as summer houses, garden rooms, or temporary overspill accommodation for families.

But when he returned, having mastered the craft of bending and shaping the 100 or so poles needed to make the lattice work and the roof supports, he gradually began to see all sorts of other applications for these adaptable structures.

In the past three years he has sold yurts as meeting rooms, business annexes, extra bedrooms, a hunting lodge, a buddhist retreat, and even as a rooftop feature on top of the Zurich stock exchange. And he has a giant multiple yurt that he hires out for functions which has served, in its time, as a turkish bath.

However his current preoccupation is to "go mainstream" and convince the public that the humble yurt is capable of revolutionising some sectors of the domestic housing market.

This question is currently under intense discussion in a Cotswold meadow where from October 21 to 30, a group of 30 people have paid £250 each to learn the craft (£150 for five days) at a yurt-making camp. They are also, with the aid of 100 raw fleeces, attempting to make the sort of waterproof felt that is used in Asia and that Mr Wynne-Jones hopes will eventually supplant the canvas covers he currently supplies with his yurts.

One man who made his own yurt after learning from Mr Wynne-Jones is Steven Place, of Llanymnech, Powys. He bought 20 cubic feet of sweet chestnut which he cut from a wood near Hereford. Cutting, splitting the wood into 80 6ft 3in laths for the trellis and 38 9ft roof poles, and making the canvas cover took two people three weeks. The cost of the timber was £35, including transport. The canvas for the cover cost £30 second-hand from a marquee hire firm. Other materials, such as nylon ropes and linseed oil, needed in large quantity, came to about £45, making a total of about £110.

"Yurts are extremely light, can be erected in 20 minutes and transported on the roof rack of a family saloon," Mr Wynne-Jones says. "They are more rigid than tents, adaptable in size, and can be divided up to provide rooms for a family. There must be a practical everyday market for them.

"The design of the frames means that yurts are incredibly robust and can easily support the weight of the thick felt covering lashed over them that makes them so stable. One of the things we are hoping to achieve by making the felt is to adapt them to face the English winter so people can live in them all-year round."

One way in which this can be done is to fit a central woodburning stove, with a vertical flue projecting through the round opening in the domed roof of the yurt — known as the "crown wheel". It is an adaptation of the open fire under the wheel in traditional Asian designs.

Having lived in one with his wife and children [aged 12 and 15 for a year before moving into the cottage beside a 17th-century mill in the Cotswolds where they now live, Mr Wynne-Jones vouches for the effectiveness of this form of central heating.

"I see a use for yurts in attempting to solve the problem of affordable rural housing," Mr Wynne-Jones says. "Nowadays villages are full of people willing to pay to have the lawn cut or the house painted but there is no one to do the work. The labour force has so often been forced out of the rural housing market. Somehow surely, yurts could be used as housing for semi-itinerant rural workers?"

It was the idea of a yurt as an extra bedroom free of planning permission that led Mr Wynne-Jones to hit on the idea of rooms for the handicapped.

"I am working on a polygonal design with a sectional wooden floor that can be used as a self-contained ground-floor extension at the rear of a house to accommodate a disabled person," he says.

The art of yurt-building: a 100 or so poles are needed to make the lattice work and the roof supports

"The idea is that a yurt, which is a temporary structure without foundations and does not need planning permission, can remain in place for as long as it is needed to house the handicapped person. Services, including sanitation, can easily be connected from the main building without the need for digging or any other form of disruption, but it is wise to check first with the planning authorities. The structure can be removed quickly and easily when the house is sold or the need otherwise arises.

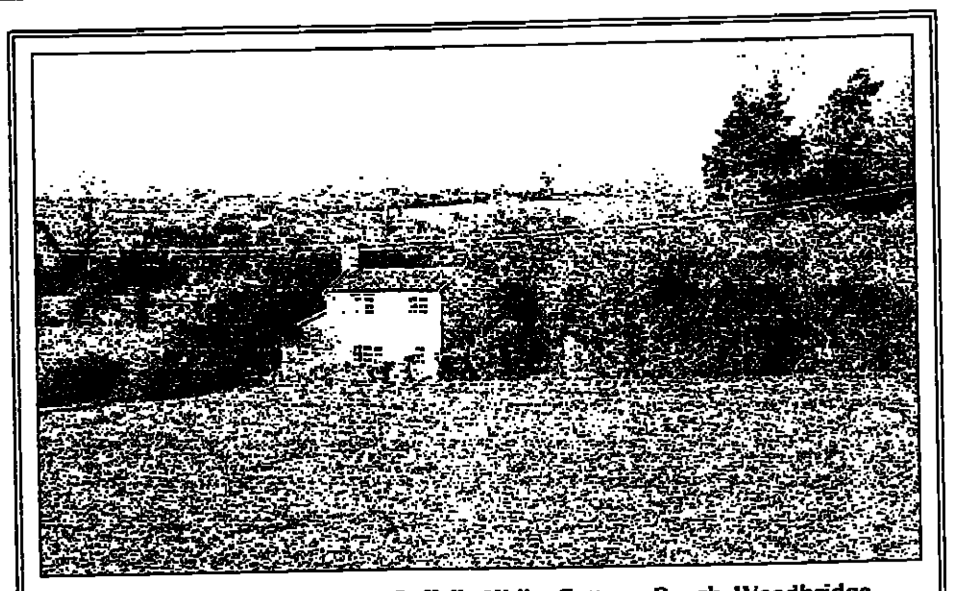
"A scheme like this avoids all the inconvenience and expense of adapting a building when quite often the need is only temporary." However, yurts are good for you whatever your state of health, according to Mr Wynne-Jones.

"Until people actually sleep in a yurt they often do not realise the calming and therapeutic effect they have on you," he says. "They offer a totally different experience from tents. Looking out at the stars from the hole at the apex — I call it the eye of the heavens — has a wonderful effect on the senses. Living in a yurt calms the psyche. "What I really enjoy is experimenting with a concept that I think has practical and constructive applications in this country.

"Some people round here think I'm loopy but after all, Henry Ford started in a garden shed with a spanner, and Genghis Khan ran his empire from a yurt."

CLIVE FEWINS

● *Hal Wynne-Jones, Arlington Mill, Bibury, Glos GL7 5NL. Yurts come ready-made from Mr Wynne-Jones in five sizes: 8ft, 10ft, 12ft, 14ft and 16ft in diameter. Prices range from £795 to £1,955 including the canvas cover. Felt covers are extra, ranging from £350 for an 8ft structure to £1,250 for a 16ft yurt.*



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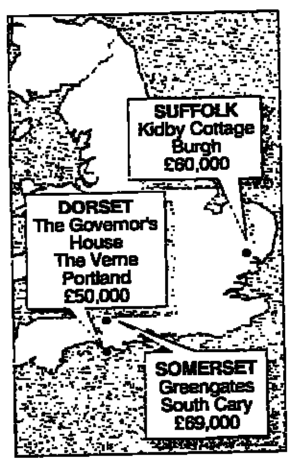

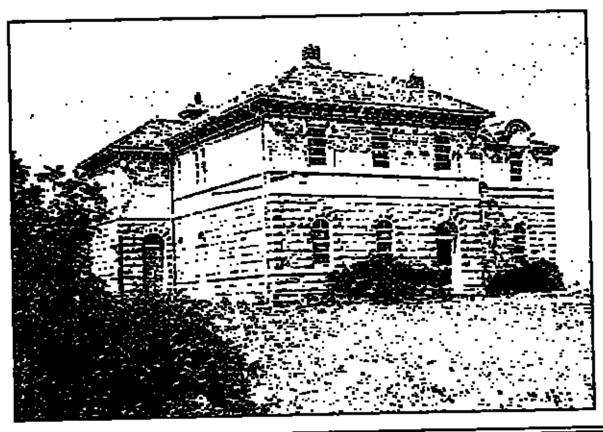

Somerset: Greengates, South Cary, Castle Cary. Cottage with patio and garage. Two bedrooms, two bathrooms, two receptions, and kitchen. About £69,000 (Palmer Snell 0963 351373).

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Sob stories mean business as usual

AUTHORS and illustrators, agents and publishers, printers and binders, wholesalers and retailers, borrowers and buyers — the book business is a complex affair.

Yet the new statistics about books that are constantly emerging mean little to the buyers of books in the shops on Saturdays. Why should they? They simply want to buy books. To would-be purchasers — bestsellers and current publications apart (and, of course, often not even then) — it is usually the case, however, that the title they want is not in stock.

They wander, if they are lucky enough to live in a town with several bookshops, from emporium to emporium in search of the the book they want.

"We can order it for you," suggests an assistant somewhat forlornly. You demur, mumbling that you must have the book today. Which you must. It is, to you if to no one else, a thoroughly desirable object.

So the book trade is big business without, often, much business being seen to be done. *The Bookseller*, the trade weekly, announced last week that one of the UK's five biggest wholesalers, the West Country's Barnicoats, had gone into receivership, with the locks dramatically changed on warehouse doors so that publishers could not seize back unsold books for which they would be unlikely to receive payment in full.

Wholesalers such as Barnicoats are fundamental to the profitable lives of independent booksellers and the smaller chains because they supply them with books in bulk.

With 70,000 new titles *per annum* and 400,000 titles in print, booksellers cannot — just because you wish to buy a particular title at £12.99 — afford to order everything direct from publishers.

As Barnicoats went into receivership, Pentos, the larger chain which owns Dillons, Hatchards, Athena and Ryman, released figures for the first six months of 1994 showing a swingeing loss of £36 million. Dillons is reported to have made operating losses of £13 million on sales of £57.5 million.

The main justification for Bloomsbury's publishing of *Princess in Love* was that it anticipated making vast profits and thus, perhaps, could subsidise proper books by the likes of Nadine Gordimer, the Nobel laureate.

It would seem that the publisher's euphoric reprints of the tawdry tome were an expensive misjudgment as, after the first few days, there were few takers for it.

Julia Neuberger: complaint

The same issue of *The Bookseller* scolded me for having been so downbeat about the Frankfurt book fair. It is, admittedly, a trade fair rather than a celebration of literature, but it would be reassuring if trade could be about writing of quality (hardly anyone is buying Naomi Campbell's *Swan*) or at least of some sort of integrity and intellectual bite. There is now an element of luvviedom which doesn't brook any criticism of the industry.

Then there was a storm in a number of teacups over the Booker Prize, whether James Kelman's *How Late It Was, How Late* should or shouldn't have won. Last year an Irishman (Roddy Doyle) won, this year a Scot (albeit a Glaswegian). Perhaps next year it will be the turn of the Welsh.

Rabbi Julia Neuberger, one of the judges, has been dissociating herself from the award because, it would seem, she didn't understand about the horse trading, which, year in year out, is part of the entertaining farce that is the process by which the Booker winner emerges.

Roddy Doyle's *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha* sold more copies than any previous Booker winner. Naturally booksellers prefer "popular" novels to win. If Kelman's book doesn't sell more than 20,000, or thereabouts, that is probably a justification for its winning a prize that is supposed to be about literature rather than booksellers' tills.

I have touched here on the failure of a wholesaler and the extravagant losses of a bookselling chain. I have mentioned the Frankfurt book fair, meretricious books, and the Booker Prize — the latter as usual having notched up astonishing press coverage. And all this an average early autumn week in the book trade.

The trade — the business of authors and the publishing of their books — receives an inordinate, unquantifiable amount of "free" coverage in the British press and on television. An editor of *The Sunday Times* once told me that agents and publishers should pay to have their books serialised in his paper rather than be paid for the privilege, because as a result they tended to shoot to the top of the bestseller list.

Observe how little money publishers spend on advertising their products. Because they receive so much free advertising, by way of editorial coverage, news stories as well as reviews, they don't need to. The media significantly feeds off books, to the somewhat self-satisfied delight of everybody involved.

GILES GORDON

A seminal work which uplifted Britain is glossier than ever, says **Stephen Bayley**

Conran chic for the '90s

■ THE ESSENTIAL HOUSE BOOK
Terence Conran
Conran-Octopus, £25

VERY few people have made so great a contribution to Britain's national well-being in the post-war years as Terence Conran; or, with the possible exception of Elizabeth David (Conran's own heroine), have had such an influence on popular taste.

The breadth of Conran's enthusiasms and the intensity of his passions mock the limitations of a subject often construed by the media to be a frivolous and effete occupation somewhere between shopping and decoration.

Although he has indeed been responsible for many fine designs, I wouldn't really call Conran, knighted in 1982 for services to design, a designer in the strictest sense. Instead, he is someone with an extraordinary zeal and missionary sense about the quality of life and rightness of things, possessed of sufficient energy to do something about it.

Like Mrs David, who adopted Escoffier's "Faites simple!" as her motto, Conran's belief in simplicity is not ascetic, but hedonistic. In either furniture or food he wants to get straight to the heart of the matter.

This is why the Conran who gave us more intelligent shopping at Habitat in the 1960s is now giving us intelligent restaurants.

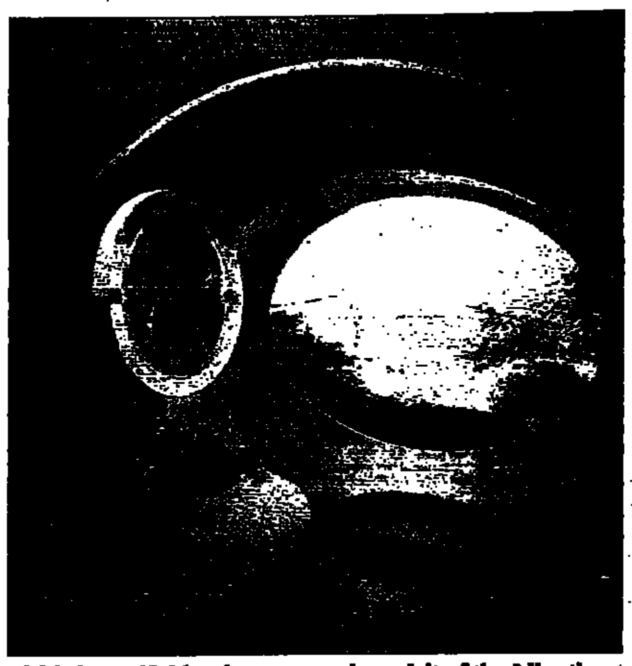
He has a belief in the quality of things, a chair or an entrecôte (it doesn't matter), that is almost mystical. Years ago I found him man-handling a whimpering secretary down the stairs saying to her: "Mimosa is fine. And so are daffodils. But not in the same ****ing vase."

Last time I saw him, he was busily drawing door-knob details for his new brasserie, London's biggest, to be built on the site of Soho's old Marquee Club.

When Habitat opened in 1964 it was a revelation, a masterpiece of enlightened eclecticism making available for purchase in Chelsea what had hitherto only been seen in smart continental architectural magazines.

Ten years later Conran produced his first *House Book*. Clear, modern, lucid and entirely without condescension or pretension, it did for wall-paper-hanging and patio design what Hugh Johnson's *World Atlas of Wine* did for cellar management and dinner parties.

Curmudgeons called Conran an opportunist. True, like so much of Conran's work, it was a collaborative exercise. Conran has never been timid about using the best-available people to help in his crusade and they return the compliment by cheerfully taking part. Many of the loon-panted individuals photographed lolling about on bean bags in 1974 matured to become care-worn Habitat-Mothercare executives in the following decade.



This beautiful book captures the spirit of the Nineties

The *House Book* was an immediate success and deservedly so. For the first time, a well-designed and articulate book gave ordinary folk an opportunity to escape mediocrity. It showed that you didn't have to be effete to care about furniture and decoration, bringing the immeasurable improvement of countless hitherto drab bed-sits, flats and urban terraces. To use a term not invented at the time, it was *empowering*.

This first edition was thoroughly revised in the mid-1980s, but now — as Habitat's first customers approach retirement age — a completely new edition appears, newly designed to complement a new Sir Terence who, bronzed and in French gardener's trousers, has long since divested himself of corporate responsibilities to concentrate on doing things simply on a smaller scale.

The new book is larger, an album format rather than a stubby illustrated encyclopaedia of wash-basins, sisal, tongue-and-grove and geraniums. Dashing drawings, powerfully evocative of the sophisticated but relaxed 1990s world-view, now open chapters where before slightly po-faced photographs set the scene.

This is a beautiful book: production values are higher than ever and the photographs include a fabulous range of properties from Mexico to Provence which only the dullest person in Caversham or Forest Hill would find uninspiring.

But the useful how-to sections and appendices with addresses remain, although I doubt anyone would undertake rewiring a ring main or the installation of a new central heating system on the basis of the instructions sportily given. Still, the great thing about *The Essential House Book* is that it stimulates. There is nothing better for a sense of well-being than that.

Digging into a buried past

■ COMING BACK BROCKENS
By Mark Hudson
A Year in a Mining Village
(Jonathan Cape, £16.99)

MARK Hudson's portrait of a Durham pit village is a journey deep into another country, a place — as he admits — that is in many ways more foreign to him than the village in the Gambia about which he wrote his last book.

Despite his family connections with the place, Horden is another world, another class, another time. And yet it is also part of him, part of his connection with his father, his grandfather, his own childhood — and he wants to make some sense of it.

He doesn't. He can't. Having spent a year in this bleak outpost of former mining glory (Horden was at one time the largest working colliery in Britain, breaking production records, and closed in 1986), his responses to a family background and culture so different from his own are complex, confused, contradictory. The place seems full of old people's memories, and there is a stubborn reluctance to confront the present.

Horden is a dismal place. The Big Club is half-empty on a Saturday night, the young disappearing to clubs in Sunderland while their parents settle in with videos. Litter and dog dirt fill the streets.

Through the tales of his family — that strange cast of characters he dimly remembers from childhood visits — Hudson tries to get to know James, his great grandfather, a conservative man of solid, rural principles; Percy, his grandfather, a radical, a socialist, a local hero; and his father, the young Tommy, already turning heads on his way to a different life.

Through them, Hudson tries to understand what it was in the character of the place that has produced its cruel inheritance. True, the pits have gone and unemployment is rife, but how has this group of people, he wonders, with their strength, their communal sense of self, turned into creators of squalor and consumers of junk, always willing to blame someone else?

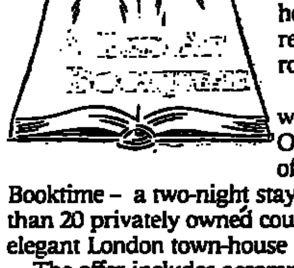
Coming Back Brockens is beautifully written and observed. It takes its title from a pit term that describes how miners vacated a pit. Working backwards, they would collapse the roof behind them as they went.

What Mark Hudson discovers in Horden is not only a family history that has collapsed in on itself, with its odd air pockets of understanding, but a whole society. When and if the rescue team turns up is anybody's guess.

GILL MORGAN

THE TIMES

Curl up with a country house



AS THE evenings start to draw in, what could be more appealing than a short break in a quiet country-house hotel with a good book to read, and a nightcap to round off the evening?

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Questions:
1) Who is the author of Orion's bestseller A Suitable Boy?
2) After which English writer is the Pride of Britain hotel Michael's Nook named?
3) What do the letters VSOP represent in Remy Martin's name?

OG
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Psycho and m'lady

Derwent May reviews the critics

5/5 Pleasure ratings are awarded to a maximum of five. Column centimetres indicate the length of reviews to date in national broadsheet newspapers

1/5 **American sicko:** Morality was on the minds of most of the reviewers of Bret Easton Ellis's latest novel, *The Informers* (Picador £9.99). In *The Daily Mail*, Albert Read said that Ellis "specialises in charting the lows of American high life" and in his previous novel, *American Psycho*, "he couldn't have gone much lower", with his "graphic descriptions of a serial killer's gory techniques of dispensing with his girlfriends". But *The Informers*, said Read, was "a gentler ride".

Not so, in the eyes of Helen Dunmore in *The Observer*: in "this collection of overlapping stories of LA in the early Eighties", she wrote, "Ellis offers vampirism, murder, dismemberment, sexual terror, and the abduction, rape and eventual hacking to pieces of a 10-year-old boy". "At its best," she thought, "his prose is a scalpel dissecting the *accidie* of terminally over-indulged human beings" but "the disturbing thing about it is the flatness with which it is done". What Ellis needed to learn was "how to put a moral framework round destruction".

Elizabeth Young in *The Guardian* agreed with this. *American Psycho* was "an agonised shriek" and "a masterpiece", but "*The Informers* is an intensely oppressive and listless book. . . It redefines Ellis's central dilemma — how to portray the trite and morally worthless without merely mirroring it and driving the reader to head-banging despair". Anthony Quinn in *The Sunday Times* was even more dismissive: *American Psycho* was "a hateful and meretricious shockfest" and the new book was "more than zero — but not much more".
Col cms: 127

3/5 **Column yards?:** Craig Brown's first novel, *The Hounding of John Thomas* (Century £14.99), is the story of Lady Chatterley's son by Mellors the gamekeeper — his rise and subsequent disgrace as a Tory MP. Julian Flynn in *The Sunday Telegraph* complained that it wasn't really a novel at all: "Brown uses bogus letters, bogus newspaper clippings, bogus Hansard transcripts, bogus anything, to stitch together his narrative. It is cleverly done, but the book is only ever as good as its last joke. Luckily, the last joke is usually a good one." Flynn picked out especially the "side-splittingly funny speech by Princess Margaret at the opening of the D. H. Lawrence Memorial Hut".

Gerald Kaufman in *The Daily Telegraph* was impressed by the way in which Brown had managed to slot "John Lennon and Yoko Ono, D. H. Lawrence and Margaret Thatcher's mother into a storyline which, despite every possible appearance to the contrary, is logically plotted to the point of over-meticulousness." He found the last 50 pages facetious, but "cackled with glee over such episodes as the arrival at the Wragby Festival of Lennon and Ono (who have taken refuge in a large bag where it is their intention to remain until the Vietnam War ends)".

Anthony Holden in *The Times* was least sympathetic. Brown was "one of our smartest broadsheet stand-up comics" — but this book was like "being forced to read a collection of satirical newspaper columns".
Col cms: 80

The Times / Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	WRITING HOME **Alan Bennett** *(Faber)*	£17.50	0	1
2	THE BODY FARM **Patricia D. Cornwell** *(Little Brown)*	£14.99	1	2
3	RYAN GIGGS: MY STORY *(Virgin)*	£12.99	0	1
4	MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY **Ian Botham** *(Collins Willow)*	£15.99	3	5
5	LOOKING FOR TROUBLE **Peter de la Billière** *(HarperCollins)*	£19.99	7	4
6	VENABLES: THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY **Terry Venables** *(Michael Joseph)*	£15.99	2	3
7	LOST HEART OF ASIA **Colin Thubron** *(Heinemann)*	£16.99	6	2
8	WILD HORSES **Dick Francis** *(Michael Joseph)*	£14.99	5	6
9	EVERVILLE **Clive Barker** *(HarperCollins)*	£15.99	8	2
10	THE GLASS LAKE **Maeve Binchy** *(Orion)*	£15.99	10	5

PAPERBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	100 RECIPES IN NO TIME AT ALL **A. Rice** *(BBC)*	£4.99	0	1
2	BRAVO TWO ZERO **Andy McNab** *(Corgi)*	£5.99	1	6
3	COMPLICITY **Iain Banks** *(Abacus)*	£6.99	2	6
4	DISCLOSURE **Michael Crichton** *(Arrow)*	£5.99	3	7
5	CROCODILE BIRD **Ruth Rendell** *(Arrow)*	£4.99	7	2
6	PADDY CLARKE HA HA HA **Roddy Doyle** *(Mandarin)*	£5.99	5	20
7	BIRDSONG **Sebastian Faulks** *(Vintage)*	£5.99	4	15
8	STRANGE PILGRIMS **Gabriel Garcia Màrquez** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	18	2
9	BLUE AFTERNOON **William Boyd** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	6	10
10	GOLDEN STRAW **Catherine Cookson** *(Corgi)*	£5.99	0	1
11	TELL ME THE TRUTH ABOUT LOVE: TEN POEMS **W. H. Auden** *(Faber)*	£2.50	10	11
12	CRUEL AND UNUSUAL **Patricia Cornwell** *(Warner)*	£5.99	0	1
13	PLEADING GUILTY **Scott Turow** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	8	7
14	A SPANISH LOVER **Joanna Trollope** *(Black Swan)*	£5.99	9	15
15	FORREST GUMP **Winston Groom** *(Black Swan)*	£5.99	0	1
16	DECEIT **Clare Francis** *(PanMacmillan)*	£5.99	14	5
17	CELESTINE PROPHECY **James Redfield** *(Bantam)*	£7.99	0	1
18	A SHORT WALK FROM HARRODS **Dirk Bogarde** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	0	1
19	WILD SWANS **Jung Chang** *(Flamingo)*	£7.99	11	27
20	SHIPPING NEWS **Annie Proulx** *(Fourth Estate)*	£5.99	13	11

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On the way to India

THE winner of *The Times* competition to win a free holiday in India by writing a critique of John Irving's *A Son of the Circus*, published by Bloomsbury, was Anne Dykes, of Sulgrave Road, west London. Runners-up were Stephen Bisgrove, of southeast London and Peter Pettinger, of Peterborough.

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Ginny Dougary gets a lesson in reading between the lines on the faces of the famous

Just a gesture to originality

Using the Young method: Prince Charles is unhappy; Blair is sexually creative; Bowie is inferior; Berlusconi mean; and Madonna has flatulence

■ THE NAKED FACE — The essential guide to reading faces
By Lailan Young
Arrow, £5.99

■ BODYTALK — A world guide to gestures
By Desmond Morris
Jonathan Cape, £16.99

TONY Blair has a frantic, creative sexual appetite; David Bowie *has an* inferiority complex; Silvio Berlusconi is a tight-wad; Madonna is peevish and suffers from flatulence, *and if John Major* really intends to look strong and purposeful he *should* start punching the air with a clenched fist.

Women are snobs, flirts (hair-fondling, leg-strokers, leg-twiners, and coy winkers), baby rockers and, when they are not *weeping*, tear their hair out. Men are ever-ready *for* a fight, taunting *other* men on the grounds that they are effeminate or cuckolds, transforming their forearms, noses or fingers into *surrogate* phalluses for the purpose of a sexual insult or a sexual come-on, which are sometimes confusingly interchangeable.

I know all this because I have just read two books which will almost certainly become bestsellers: one is expensive tosh on body language by the world expert people-watcher Desmond Morris, the other is more moderately-priced tosh on physiognomy by Lailan Young, a Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute. The latter is certainly the better value of the two (all things being relative), not least because it contains an abbreviated version of the former.

There is nothing *new* about the rather creepy and inexact "science" of divining a person's *personality* from his or her facial features. Young, whose earlier book *Secrets of the Face* was translated into 11 languages, places herself in some illustrious company when she *tells us: "The serious study of* reading character from the face ... *began in China. Even in the* West, detailed attention to the *science ... dates back to the time of* the classical scholars. Aristotle, *Plato, Aristophanes, Hippocrates* and Pliny all wrote at length on the *subject.*"

Reading this book made me feel *like an ancient of a different order* — the School of Old Codgers — as I harrumphed my way through its pages, *only pausing to snort at one* absurdity after another, made all *the more indigestible by the man*gled prose: "So well is it known that *the ears of Prince Charles stick out,* that the left ear is bigger than the *right, it should be no surprise that* his home life was unhappy and *apparently bleak." (Sub-text: The* author trusts that the Princess of Wales consults the ear section, at the very least, of *The Naked Face* before picking her next husband.)

This book should fit very nicely into the shelves of the residents of Venice Beach, California, alongside *the I Ching* and *Colour Me Beautiful*. Where else would readers steer clear of an old friend on discovering he has a "Concorde nose" ("warns of unreliability, ... and cruelty") and choose their nannies or child-minders according to the shape of the applicant's face. Elsewhere, it will be read, I can only hope, strictly for the (unintended) laughs.

Quite who will spend £17 (minus one pence) on *Bodytalk* — 200 pages of drawings of men (mostly) around the world gesticulating — *is even* more baffling. By the time I reached *the final pages, I was doing a lot of* Cheek Support 2 (meaning: I am tired), Collar Hold (*meaning: we are* being deceived) and Hands 'Flute' (*meaning: I am bored*).

My six-year-old son, on the other *hand, had been desperate to get his* hands on it. (Perhaps seeing some *similarity between Bodytalk* and Dr Xargle's books on Earthlings.) It is *by no means certain that this was* the readership Morris had in mind.

Called to court of account

■ THE SOLOIST
By Mark Salzman
Bloomsbury, £9.99

RENNE Sundheimer has an eye for shoes as the key to the soul. A new student wears a pristine suit but his footwear is "badly scuffed"; his old tutor's outfit is baggy but he wears "recently polished shoes".

Such an obsession with detail is surely part of the *malady which has blighted* the musician's life. Renne is a *cellist who in his youth was* touted as a prodigy, as the next *Casals, but who had to give up* performing aged 18, having *developed such a mania for* true pitch that he could never, ever please *his own ear. Now,* at 36 — "young for a retired concert *soloist but old for a* virgin" — he teaches music at a *Los Angeles university*, far away from the mother who ran his life for so long, and content to isolate himself in his job and his gruelling routine of practice, until a summons for jury duty turns his life upside down.

Renne's spell in the service of the state brings him into contact with men and women he would never otherwise have encountered. At the same time he is asked to take on as a pupil Kyung-Hee Kim, a seemingly listless young Korean boy with an extraordinary talent for the cello whose father sees in him a way out of the family's poverty. His fellow jurors, the court case and the boy push him up against the silence in himself until he *is forced to listen to it. Renne* must discover if he is still a *soloist*.

Mark Salzman made his *debut in 1987 with Iron and Silk*, an engaging non-fiction work about his study of the martial arts in China. This, his first work of fiction, shows that the intervening years have not been wasted. In Renne he had given us a marvellous narrator, entertaining and amusing, his own irritation with his failings ensuring that we suffer no such discontent. *The Soloist* is an accomplished, absorbing book, its complex ideas dealt *with so delicately that they* strike the reader like depth *charges, reverberating inside* the head long after their force *should* have dissipated.

ERICA WAGNER

Marcel Berlins on the return of Commander Adam Dalgliesh in a classic P. D. James whodunit

Publish and be murdered

■ ORIGINAL SIN
By P.D. James
Faber, £14.90

MARK ELLIDGE

P.D. James: every character is portrayed with perception and understanding

STUDY the cover. Water laps sinisterly at the steps of a 15th-century Venetian palace. The Grand Canal, surely. Yet there are high modern office buildings in the background. The impression is confusing. It is in fact London, by the Thames. The palace *is* a 19th-century copy, a rich man's *folly. The building and* the river are an important, richly atmospheric, part of P.D. James's compelling return to the rigours of the classic detective story.

Innocent House is the headquarters of London's most ancient and venerable book publishers, Peverell Press, now struggling. A long-serving *secretary* kills herself on the premises; a month later, in *the same small archives room*, the body of Peverell's managing *director*, Gerard Etienne, is found asphyxiated, with a toy snake wrapped around his neck, its head in the dead man's mouth.

Brutal in his personal relationships, unfeeling to staff and authors, and upsettingly radical in his business ambitions, Etienne leaves few sincere *mourners, but the* abundance and variety of *motives diminishes as others* connected with Peverell Press are murdered too.

Commander Adam Dalgliesh's inquiry proceeds along traditional lines, sensitive and probing, but Dalgliesh himself is curiously remote. He turns up to conduct most of the interviews, but his emotions and his life outside work are rarely glimpsed. Certainly, *he* is not *the gloomy introspective poet* of the previous novels; he *seems less troubled — and not* quite as beguiling.

Perhaps James feels she has extracted everything she can from him, and she has transferred her attention to Detective Inspector Kate Miskin, hitherto a minor player.

Illegitimate, raised in near-poverty by a resentful grandmother, street-wise and resistant to emotional attach*ment, with no advantages* but her intelligence and ability, *Miskin is, in almost every* respect, the opposite of her *mentor, Dalgleish. She does* not yet have his charisma.

Every character in *Original Sin* is portrayed with perception and understanding. James is convincing whether describing the sad lives of employees devoted to the dying ideals of the firm; the youthful, don't care exuberance of the perpetually *temping Mandy*; the empty and petty lives of Petherell's partners, or the ethical dilemmas faced by the young Jewish *cop Daniel Aaron*.

Original Sin is not as tormented as some of James's novels, nor as intent in probing the inner soul, but it is no less riveting.

Moore wins 1894 Booker

ALTHOUGH the judges didn't know it at the time when the vote in the 1894 Booker Prize went finally, but by an extraordinarily close margin, to *Esther Waters* by George Moore, the Cheltenham Festival of Literature audience contained none other than George Moore's great niece. She was the only descendant of a shortlisted author present.

The judges — Gillian Beer, Melvyn Bragg, John Coldstream, Martyn Goff, Victoria Glendinning and I — eliminated Kipling's *Jungle Book* and Stevenson's *The Ebb-tide* early on. *Trilby*, by George du Maurier, had a passionate enthusiast for its language, if not its plot, in Martyn Goff.

Melvyn Bragg spoke eloquently in support of a novel in which, originally, he had no great expectations: *In the Year of Jubilee*, by George Gissing.

The surprise of the evening was the all-round enthusiasm for Anthony Hope's *romance The Prisoner of Zenda*. Everyone *praised its great pace and* stirring storytelling. Could, we asked, such a novel even be shortlisted in 1994? Certainly, in 1894 we had no such inhibitions.

The judges were split, but, in the end, came down in favour of George Moore's *Esther Waters*, which, despite some minor carelessness in its plotting, was admired for its story, characterisation and backdrop.

ION TREWIN

TIMES BOOKS

THURSDAY

Kenneth Baker on *Conflict of Loyalty*, the memoirs of Geoffrey Howe

Briggs's invasion of the honey snatcher

■ THE BEAR
By Raymond Briggs
Julia MacRae, £9.99

■ THE GIANT BABY
By Allen Ahlberg
Illustrated by Fritz Wegner
Viking, £9.99

The bear: silent partner

MYSTERIOUS giants are in season. *The bear comes out of* the night, effects a silent entry into Tilly's bedroom (encouraged by the waving arms of a welcoming teddy bear) and for a whole day looms enormously around the house.

"Aaah, the wonderful world of a child's imagination," says Daddy, when Tilly talks about the big, black, wet nostrils and *the claws curved like hooks* — but he is in his workshop, and *Mummy has gone to the office* when the bear eats up all the *honey and does a poo on the* stair carpet.

Raymond Briggs is becoming a specialist in domestic invasions like this. Beautifully composed pages — sometimes with only one drawing on them, sometimes with a strip — take the story along at a controlled pace, and the text *plays provoking games* with reality and "the child's *imagination*".

Allan Ahlberg's *The Giant Baby derives from a musical* play the author wrote with Colin Matthews. Fritz Wegner, the illustrator, does his considerable best to lighten up the heavy-handed flippancy of the text. His pen-drawings throughout the book are wonders of comic observation.

BRIAN ALDERSON

Jeremy Paxman recalls the anecdotes that got away

New angle on an old story

■ *FISH, FISHING AND THE MEANING OF LIFE*
By Jeremy Paxman
Michael Joseph, £16.99

SO MANY *books have been* written about angling that it *has become a commonplace* for authors to introduce their own efforts with something close to an apology. Of course, they rarely leave it there. "And so why another book about angling?" is usually followed by a lengthy justification for just this one tome and that boils down to the fact that we are getting it whether we need it or not.

It is even getting that way with anthologies of angling writing. I have a fisherman's *dozen, and then some*, in my own modest library, ranging *from some of the best to what* is certainly the worst.

Paxman pops his own question on whether or not the world really *needs* another fishing book right at the beginning, but *he* does not answer directly. Perhaps all that time hobnobbing with politicians is having an effect. However, I will answer for him. The world has no desperate need for another angling book, just as it has no desperate need for another fishing fly. But as with flies, so with books: there is always room for a good 'un. And this anthology is excellent.

Paxman has mined the rich, deep seam of angling literature and lifted many buried gems to the light.

There is any number of ways in which the pieces in an angling anthology can be presented. Paxman has grouped his own choice — the light and entertaining rather than the meaty and profound — under a set of generic headings he introduces with brief essays in the familiar Paxman style: *crisp and direct*, for all the gentle pace of the material all *around them*.

There are some worldly one-*liners. "Of all the gizmos the* angler may have inside his fishing bag, the pre-eminent one is his credit card." A Theodore Roosevelt fishing story "merely proves the adage that the bigger the politician, the bigger the necessary pinch of salt".

It is inevitable, some passages in angling literature being as well known as they are, that any new collection will contain material that others have used before. There *are many familiar pieces here.* But there is also much that is new — *to me, at least* — particularly from America.

Paxman is right in his praise of American angling literature and has clearly truffled deeply in his research. Perhaps because of that, I am surprised that he found no room for Ben Hur Lampman, who has produced some of America's loveliest and most idiosyncratic angling prose. This book is precisely what a good anthology should be: it is an excellent dip-and-read.

Paxman: excellent

BRIAN CLARKE

On the run from middle age

■ RUNNING AWAY
By Leslie Thomas
Methuen, £15.99

"ALL you want," says Nicholas Boulting's literary agent, "*is your* wife, your children, your home ... and your mistresses ... *It doesn't seem an* unreasonable list. But it's diffi*cult. Ask any man who's tried* it."

Twenty years ago *Leslie* Thomas raised a hilarious lace curtain on life at the outer edge of the underground map in *Tropic of Ruislip*. But the *suburbs* have changed *since* then. Thomas's new novel, *Running Away*, although rooted in the terrain he describes best, is in a bleaker, more complicated world.

Ruislip has become Boxley, another outpost of the Metropolitan Line, and home to *Nicholas and Sarah Boulting*, aged 40 and 39, and their two teenage children. Nicholas is *an author, or at least* he has written one novel, a fluke *success, which, three years* later, he is hopelessly unable *to repeat. Having given up his* day job and taken an office in town, he spends his time on lunch and mistresses. Then one day he comes home with wet soap in his ears and Sarah finally blows all fuses.

Flight into the dark night without so much as a credit card sets Nicholas off on a mid-life adventure. Thank heavens for the last tube. From Baker Street, where? Gatwick, then Luxor. Freedom beckons.

But this is a Leslie Thomas *novel, and the only ticket left is* for Malaga. Homesick, beset by farcically awful travelling companions, he returns to London. But not home. His bluff has been called: his clothes are in his car, the *lawyer is on the case*, and a desperate vista stretches *ahead of Sunday lunches with* the children at carveries.

Thomas draws a chillingly real picture of man in middle age. Many will recognise the perpetually angry wife, the golf partner who cheats, the *harder quest for good ideas.*

But the discomfort is not unrelieved. An engagingly comic supporting cast and the false teeth jokes are vintage Thomas. This author is too humane to let his characters, or his readers, suffer for long.

ROSE WILD

All the best stories are true

ESQUIRE • VOLVO • WATERSTONE'S NON-FICTION AWARD 1994

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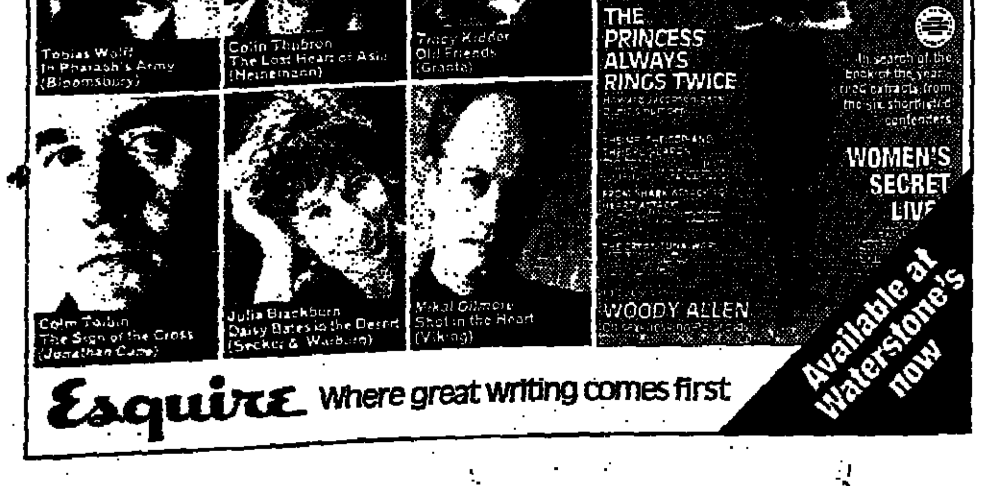

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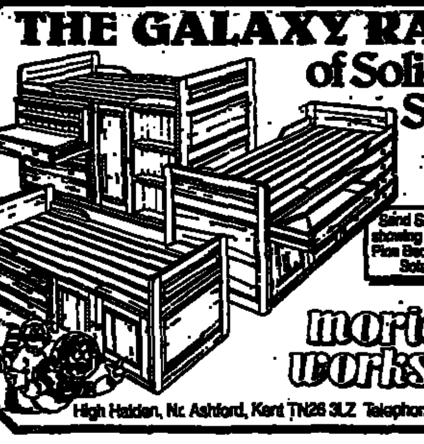

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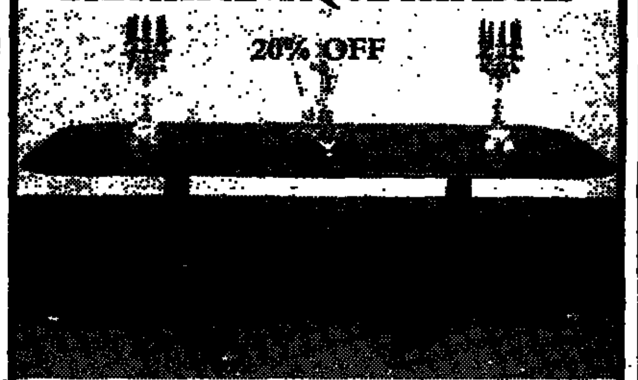

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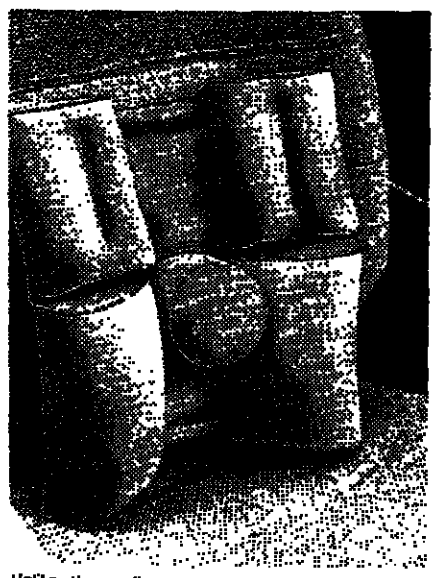

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NEW IN PAPERBACK

■ THE DIARIES, LETTERS AND NOTEBOOKS OF BARBARA PYM
Edited by Hazel Holt and Hilary Pym
Macmillan, £12.99

The life of Barbara Pym might not, at first, appear the most riveting read, hinging as it did on her day job at the International African Institute, endless marmalade making, church jumble sales and Cats Protection League Bazaars. However, the editors have organised an unwieldy mass of letters and diaries into a coherent and surprisingly gripping story.

The first and funniest section deals with Pym's undergraduate life at St Hilda's College, Oxford. Thereafter her style blossoms as she launches herself as a novelist, though the story is often painful: the dreariness of war, doomed love affairs, and many rejections from publishers who, during the 1960s, no longer considered her to be a commercially viable writer. Yet she had an endearingly optimistic outlook and continually drew pleasure from life's small ironies. Right up to her last days in a hospital ward, she was jotting down little observations about her fellow patients, for use, no doubt in some future novel.

BARBARA PYM ESTATE

Barbara Pym (centre) as an undergraduate at St Hilda's

■ TWENTIETH CENTURY CHARACTERS
By Duncan Fallowell
Vintage, £5.99

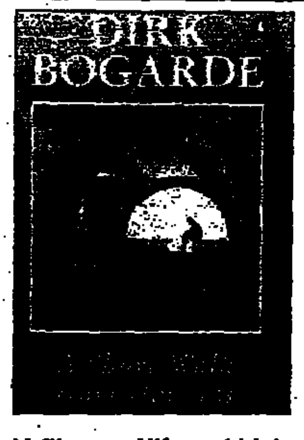
If a successful interviewer wishes to cobble together some of his "greatest hits" for our enjoyment there's nothing wrong with that, as Henry Root would say. But Fallowell's declared intention — "to paint a composite portrait of the 20th century through a range of its characteristic personalities" — is more contentious. Certainly, there are people here who reflect the spirit of the century, such as Arnold Schwarzenegger, Germaine Greer and Andy Warhol, but Fallowell's "range" is limited to those he has interviewed. His evocative and entertaining pieces stand up without such claims. Nevertheless, a very Rootian "Well done!"

■ DOM CASMURRO
By Machado De Assis
Penguin Classics, £6.99

Public interest in modern South American fiction has led to a rediscovery of some of the continent's old masters, and this new translation by Robert Scott-Buccleuch offers the masterpiece of Brazil's greatest novelist a re-entry to the canon. Its narrator, Bentinho, recalls his adolescent love affair and subsequent marriage to Capitu. The relationship deteriorates and, after the sudden death of his best friend, Escobar, Bentinho accuses Capitu of having comitted adultery with him. This short tale appears simple enough until we see through the narrator's stratagems, separate the "fact" from the story, and find, at its heart, a dark depiction of a society and a personality in turmoil.

■ A SHORT WALK FROM HARRODS
By Dirk Bogarde
Penguin, £5.99

After the 20 hard but idyllic years he shared with his companion Tony Forwood in Provence, it is not surprising that Dirk Bogarde writes so harshly about the shallow life he found in London after the departure enforced by Forwood's illness. His sixth volume of memoirs starts despairingly but ends more hopefully, as he discovers that life is still worth living in London. His description of the years between is a haunting love story — about Forwood, Provence, kindly French neighbours and an idyllic way of life — which is made more powerful by Bogarde's understatement of the passions involved.



■ *A PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIR*
By Edwina Currie
Hodder & Stoughton, £8.99

As a former government minister herself, Edwina Currie has cleverly capitalised on her insider's knowledge to add weight to the story of Elaine Stalker, the beautiful and enterprising Conservative MP who embarks on a passionate affair with one of the government whips. She gives us an authentic and intriguing glimpse of Westminster life, though sadly there is not even a passing mention of the infamous Salmonella in eggs crisis which provoked Currie's own resignation.

● *Lois Rathbone, Guy Walters, Giles Coren, Brian MacArthur, Helen Davidson*

Gay cavalier rides again

MY OLD Anglo-Irish friend Gay Kindersley — the ebullient, daredevil, Guinness heir who went on, after Eton, Oxford and the 7th Hussars, to inherit £750,000 when he was 25 (40 years ago, at that) and to become champion amateur jockey and to train racehorses — was responsible for one of my most embarrassing moments.

In 1985, he took me to a British Sportsmen's Club lunch at the Savoy for Allan Border's touring Australian cricket team. We approached the Aussies. "Hello, folks," said Kindersley jovially. "I'm Gay and this is my friend Graham."

It would in fact be difficult to imagine anyone less homosexual than Gay (short for Gaylord) Kindersley, a father of six, whose favourite sport — even more than riding — has been the relentless, blatant pursuit of women ever since he was seduced at the age of seven by his German nanny. This splendidly indiscreet, lively, authorised biography is even naughtily subtitled "The ups and downs of Gay Kindersley", and a cartoon on the cover shows him leaping with a bottle of champagne over a racecourse fence to land on a sexy blonde horsewoman.

■ FLINGS OVER FENCES: *The ups and downs of* Gay Kindersley
By Robin Rhoderick-Jones
Quiller Press, £16.95

As a 19-year-old cavalry officer in Germany, Kindersley limbered up for his future Casanova role by ravishing bored RAF wives, and even during his two marriages (he eloped with his first wife, of course), he has openly enjoyed scores of affairs with mistresses ranging from Ann, Marchioness of Queensberry, and the zither player Shirley Abicair to an exotic White Russian known as "the Volga Boatwoman" and a lady master of foxhounds with a pilot's licence nicknamed "the Flying Fornicator".

His biographer, Robin Rhoderick-Jones, a retired brigadier in the Irish Hussars, writes of Kindersley's "hopeless inability to be faithful" and describes a three-in-a-bed romp, when Kindersley and an American friend were vying for the same girl's attentions. Eventually she sighed: "Come on then, Gay, it had better be you. After all, you are my cousin."

Gay Kindersley: daredevil

There was the night in a London hospital (where his racing injuries were treated) when one of his favourite nurses came on night duty, saw that one of the patients was G. Kindersley, slipped into the man's bed and discovered that the patient was, in fact, Kindersley's delighted 80-year-old great uncle, Guy.

Even when Kindersley decided to marry for the second time, he did so by stealing Oliver Reed's girlfriend, Philippa Harper. Reed came to the reception but was still furious. "I hope you both rot in hell," he told the happy couple.

Such louche anecdotes are typical of Kindersley's life. There is about him a devilishly 18th-century raffishness. For a bet of £100 he once swam the Thames on an icy night and nearly drowned.

As a fearless, foolhardy jockey he sustained numerous injuries, dislocating both shoulders, breaking his back twice and all but having an ear torn off. As a trainer he twice came close to achieving his dream of winning the Grand National, only for victory to be snatched away at the last minute.

He has even managed to fritter away much of his rich inheritance — he once lost £4,000 on a horse — but as well as money he inherited a wild family tradition of eccentricity: his grandfather had to ask his chauffeur what his name was; an Irish uncle seldom wore shoes and died riding the roof of a railway carriage as it passed under a bridge; and Kindersley's Bohemian, party-loving mother, encouraged by her husband, once attempted to seduce George, Duke of Kent, on the floor of a nightclub.

Some must consider Kindersley's rich, boozy, gilded lifestyle to have been unacceptably selfish and feckless, yet he is so kind, genial, boyish and curiously innocent that he has made few enemies.

His friends include Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, despite the fact that once, as he was showing her around his country house, he opened the door to a guest room to reveal an unmarried couple frolicking on the bed. "How nice," murmured Her Majesty, "but I think, perhaps, we should not go further."

Kindersley is the sort of man to get everyone marching round the dining-room table. As his old jockey friend Lord Oaksey writes in his foreword: "What fun it has been to know him". Yes.

GRAHAM LORD

Does Julie Myerson's debut signal an attempt to exorcise her private demons?

Pregnant questions answered

I ONCE met a woman who fell in love during the ninth month of her fourth pregnancy and left her husband for her lover at that juncture. I am familiar with the libido-enhancing potency of the pregnant state, so I am absolutely convinced by the central affair described in this first novel, in which a shadowy American clings to an Englishwoman in an advanced state of gestation and becomes her lover.

■ SLEEPWALKING
By Julie Myerson
Picador, £9.99

The pre-publicity has revealed that the novel is an exorcism. In real life, Julie Myerson's father committed suicide on the day she went into labour with her second child. Her mother had left her father when Myerson was a child — she did a moonlight flit with the three daughters, and none of them was ever forgiven except the youngest daughter. This acrimonious family saga is woven into the narrative, which is fashionably slight and minimalist in style, with the ingredients of sex and death that bestow just the kind of excitement that Josephine Hart's *Damage* attracted.

The question is, have we a genuine new novelist's debut here, or another woman writer making clever cathartic use of her difficult personal experiences? Hard to say. The vignettes and observations are neatly judged. " 'So, Douglas,' she said now, as she crossed the room with the purple glass ashtray, her nylon skirt-lining swishing pleasingly against her stocking-tops, 'what did you think of the Eurovision Song Contest?' "

But it does not necessarily translate into substantial fiction. The fatal flaw in all such exercises, however dramatic the plot, is a failure to engage us, or to rise above the puniness of the characters. Susan, the pregnant protagonist, has neither humour nor charm; Lenny, the lover, has no allure; Alastair, the husband, has no substance; the narrative, cool and wintry, moves back and forth into the family history of the unprepossessing father and his own mother, but none of them has depth or appeal.

Myerson can write well and deftly. An extract from the book won her a prize in the *Elle* talent contest, and publishers clamoured to win the novel for their lists, but that may reflect more of a bleak opportunism than the arrival of startling new fictional talent.

VALERIE GROVE

Julie Myerson: first novel

CD DIRECT: **Richard Morrison** introduces this month's chosen artist, Herbert von Karajan, and four great albums

Beyond dispute, a maestro

You respected him, feared him or loathed him. Some may even have loved him. One thing you could not do was ignore him. Herbert von Karajan made 800 records, and at one time was responsible for one-third of all discs sold by Deutsche Grammophon. He lived the life of a playboy — skiing, yachts, fast cars, blondes, and a business empire to rival that of the entertainment conglomerates with which he struck such lucrative deals.

Even when Karajan was 70, a rumour went round that he was planning to climb Mount Everest, as a final demonstration, no doubt, of the Triumph of the Will. One was rather inclined to believe it.

But nothing outside music and the music business was really of that much importance to him. He lived for his profession, and in music he was an obsessive searcher for perfection, a complete professional. He painstakingly constructed and trained one of the most virtuosic orchestras the world has ever known. Once, he demanded a hundred hours of rehearsal for Beethoven's Ninth Symphony — and this with players who were practically playing the work in their cradles. His opera productions were usually planned years in advance. When he staged *Die Walküre* he called more than 30 rehearsals for the lighting men alone.

Some accused Karajan of dominating the postwar musical world less by his artistry than by his ruthlessness, his business cunning and his overwhelming sense of self-advancement. There is truth in that. A lot of the ills of our present culture — the obsession with image, the outrageous demands of the superstars, the glossy presentation that conceals a meanness of spirit — can be traced to the less attractive traits in HvK's personality.

And there were undoubtedly very dark areas in his psyche. We may give him the benefit of the doubt on the much-disputed question of how early he joined the Nazi Party, and how deep his belief in its warped philosophies went. Karajan always maintained that he did it solely to advance his musical career — and that sounds plausible. But his brutal treatment of rivals who stood in his way in the early 1950s, when he was seeking to make himself top dog in Berlin, was so callous that an account of it could almost serve as an appendix to Machiavelli's *The Prince*.

Karajan re-created the Berlin Philharmonic in his own image: as a smooth, majestic yet incredibly powerful beast

Yet he was a great conductor. That is why, five years after his death, his recordings still inspire awe and, often, intense exultation. Eyes invariably closed, as if focused entirely on his own sublime self, he nevertheless exerted a charismatic pull on his orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic.

His orchestra? That is a strong, even libellous thing to write about an ensemble that was magnificent before Karajan was born, and which has remained in stunning shape since he died. Yet it is justified. Karajan re-created the Berliners in his own image: as a smooth, majestic yet incredibly powerful beast, carrying out his musical beliefs with unflawed fidelity. In hundreds of performances and recordings, spread over 30 years, the Berliners' silky strings, lustrous and rampant brass, perfectly matched woodwind and astoundingly strong basses all attested to Karajan's effectiveness, and to the power of a personality that could mould a hundred musicians into so formidable a music-making machine.

It is pointless pretending that Karajan is a conductor for all repertoire. You would not turn to him for Stravinsky, for example. He was Austrian by birth and musical inclination, and his Bruckner (particularly the Fourth Symphony offered in our selection) is simply unrivalled for sonority, architectural sense or surging power.

To Beethoven and Brahms he also brought tremendous character. What is missing in moment-by-moment tension (for Karajan abhorred a bumpy ride, in music as in his relationship with the rest of humanity) is more than replaced by the sense of total control of all things leading to one great culmination of the whole work. Belatedly, he also became a superb interpreter of Mahler and Shostakovich, both of whom challenged his pride in orchestral finesse. The finale of Shostakovich's Tenth Symphony, which we have chosen, simply takes your breath away with its audacious speed and exhilarating precision.

Indeed, Karajan was often criticised for being too obsessed with precision. He was accused of possessing no soul, or perhaps of having sold it to the devil. But it is important not to be so dazzled by the immaculate surface of a Karajan interpretation that you imagine that little of substance lies below. There is passion in Karajan's music-making — and anger too, if you listen hard enough.

A year or two before he died he came to London with the Berlin Philharmonic. It was an extraordinary occasion. Something had gone wrong with the orchestra's travelling arrangements (at the *englisch* end, of course), and the players had no evening wear. They appeared in sweaters and trainers. Then Karajan was, literally, carried on; by then he was crippled, racked with pain. One wondered what this ramshackle mob and their decrepit master were going to produce.

But once Karajan reached the podium something seemed to possess him. He stood ramrod straight, turned to the audience and, instead of bowing, simply glared at us. If ever a demeanour said "I don't give a damn what you think", this was it. Then he launched one of the most powerful and turbulent performances of Brahms's Fourth Symphony that I ever expect to hear. When the trombones blasted out the start of the finale, the sound seared the soul at fifty paces.

I had always thought that this was a one-off experience. But then I played our chosen recording of Karajan conducting this symphony, and its impact on me was just as profound. Perhaps it proves that Peter Shaffer got it dead right in *Amadeus*: there is absolutely no correlation between musical genius and niceness.

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● **TO PURCHASE any of these top-price Deutsche Grammophon CDs of Herbert von Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra at the specially reduced Times prices (£21.99 for the three-CD set of Brahms symphonies; £11.99 each for the Shostakovich and Beethoven, £8.99 for the Bruckner), complete the booking form (below). You can also receive an *extra CD free when you order* two or more of the recom*mended items, or alternative*ly the three-CD set of the Brahms symphonies.**

Brahms The Four Symphonies. *Berlin PO/Karajan*
T109401

"You have no idea how it feels to hear behind you the tramp of a giant like Beethoven," exclaimed Brahms, by way of explanation as to why he delayed for so long the writing of the portentous symphonies that the world expected him to produce. However, when he did produce them, they were masterpieces: cornerstones of the entire Romantic repertoire, by turns powerful, luscious, delicate and rumbustious. The Berlin Philharmonic is at its sonorous best in these glorious performances.

Shostakovich Symphony No 10. *Berlin PO/Karajan*
T109402

Shostakovich's symphonies are often interpreted as speaking eloquently of the fortitude of those who endured, and were terrified by, life during the most repressive eras of Soviet Russia. But they are also superb pieces of music in their own right, irrespective of their subtext. Shostakovich took the language of Mahler — and his huge emotional range — and gave it a 20th-century splice that nevertheless speaks straight to the hearts of listeners, whether Russian or not. The Tenth is, some say, perhaps the greatest of all his symphonies.

Beethoven Symphony No 9, "Choral". *Anna Tomowa-Sintow, Agnes Baltsa, Peter Schreier, Jose van Dam, Berlin PO/Karajan*
T109403

When the two Germanies reunited, there was only one possible piece of music to mark the occasion fittingly: Beethoven's "Choral" Symphony, with its great finale setting Schiller's idealistic *Ode to Joy*. The work stretched to unprecedented dimensions the idea of what a symphony was; it also summed up Beethoven's heroic philosophy and epitomised his supreme originality. Karajan conducted the work many times, and recorded it four times; this interpretation is thrilling, audacious and unforgettable.

Bruckner *Symphony No 4*, "Romantic". *Berlin PO/Karajan*
T109404

Anton Bruckner was the most expansive, and perhaps also the most "romantic", of all the great 19th-century composers. His symphonies are conceived on a grand scale; they unfold in leisurely style, and their sonorities are truly sumptuous. They are light-years away from the turbulence of Beethoven, or the anguish of Mahler. And yet they have their drama too, played out on a cosmic level and charged with a religious feeling that invariably triumphs in the end. In purely sonic terms, they are perfect vehicles for Karajan and his virtuosic orchestra.

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An illustration by Carol Walkin for Libanus Press's *Theodore & Honoria*

Chapter and verse on the private press

As the third Oxford Fine Press Book Fair gets under way, we offer a guide to some of the beautiful and much sought-after limited editions produced by Britain's private printers

ANDY DUNKLEY

Ian Mortimer of I. M. Imprimit pulls a proof from the original engraved wooden blocks for *Ornamented Types*, a series of alphabets from the 1820s

Although many people collect books, few know about the kind of books deliberately aimed at the collector. Today, 45 private presses and 20 other exhibitors are gathering near Oxford to trade ideas and treasures. It is a welcome chance to see how many are the uses of papers and inks, given passion and ingenuity. The books range from Alembic Press's miniatures *Flora, Fauna* and *Follies* (1½in x 2in) to an elephant folio (as it sounds, but in a smoother cover), and are priced from a few pounds to thousands.

A limited edition from a private press may be the only outlet for work that a major publisher could not make commercial, because the audience is small or because the techniques used preclude large print-runs. And whether they make books professionally or as a hobby, private printers are prepared to lavish time and thought on their books.

A Printer's Dozen, from the Rampant Lions Press, explores the scope for experimentation: it consists of specimen layouts for books that were planned but never produced. Printer Sebastian Carter shows how colour, ornament, margins, shoulder-notes and different faces and sizes of type can signal to readers what kind of book they have in their hands, the relative importance of its different elements, perhaps the era or place of writing, and something of the mood and intention of the author. Only 200 copies of the book were printed, retailing at £165.

Collectors value design that presents work in suitable, individual ways, and the Oxford jamboree promises a mixture of the beautiful, the tactile, the whimsical and the frankly hideous — but no agreement about which is which.

There will be dealers and demonstrations, and for browsers it will be a chance to see books that never appear in the high street bookshops. Indeed, some will have sold out even before publication, disappearing immediately into private and public collections.

Two of the grandest are celebrations of lettering itself. *Ornamented Types*, from which the initial capitals for this article are taken, is the first showing of 23 printer's alphabets from a forgotten typefoundry of about 1820. The wooden blocks, being slightly warped, had to be hand-inked and hand-printed, so the project was perfect for Ian Mortimer, whose I.M. Imprimit claims to be the only full-time hand press in the world. The 200 sets took eight years to print, and the two volumes sell for £1,650.

The forthcoming *London's Handwriting*, written by Colin Banks and printed by the Libanus Press, tells the story of the lettering used exclusively by London Transport since 1916. This "Underground Railway Block Letter" was designed by the calligrapher Edward Johnston, who died 50 years ago, and the book will include 18 pages of alphabets printed from wooden letters used by LT. There will also be plates of Johnston's working drawings and of modifications through to the digitisation of the face.

Libanus, in Marlborough, does a lot of jobbing work, and at the fair will be showing recent limited editions of Dylan Thomas, William Boyd, Martin Amis, Anthony Powell, Colin Dexter, John Fowles and Eric Ravilious, under various imprints, as well as its own parallel texts edition of *Candide* with pen-and-ink illustrations by Angela Barrett.

Many small presses like to reinterpret the classics. The Old School Press, near Bath, will be showing a little hand-set book of extracts from Jane Austen on the subject of fruit, with wood-engravings by Simon Brett (135 copies, £39); the Old Stile Press has a new edition of Oscar Wilde's *Ballad of Reading Gaol* with engravings by Garrick Palmer (225 copies, £85). The Welsh press Gwasg Gregynog has a most impressive volume of colour engravings by Gaylord Schanilec, inspired by poems by Walt Whitman (*Wrenching Times*, £200), as well as a charming alphabet book, *An ABC Tour of Wales*, with pochoir illustrations (£30).

Modern poetry is the focus of a new venture, Clarion Publishing, which has commissioned different illustrators and printers to produce little books of new poems by Roger McGough, Matthew Sweeney, Wendy Cope and others. It should be a fine series.

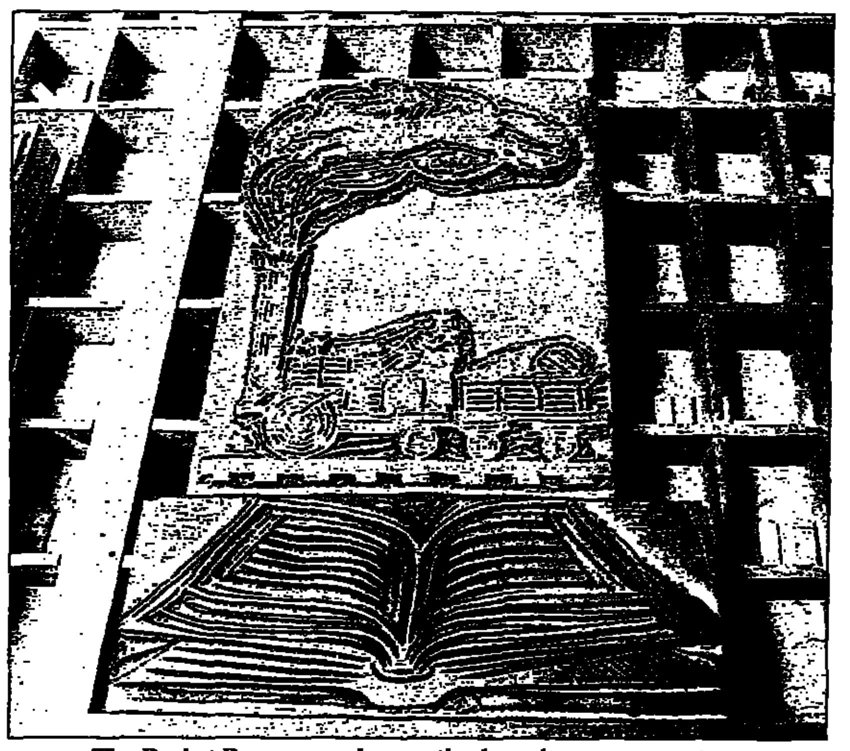
Many presses contend for the crown of best printer of wood engravings. Fleece Press is the one to beat. The second volume of its John Buckland Wright series, *Baigneuses*, should be published next month. It contains 25 of his wood-engravings from 1925 to 1953, and other material. For orders received at the fair, the 200 standard copies will be £218 each, the 40 "specials", in full vellum, £395. The press is also planning a book on Gwen Raverat.

The Monkeys' Dream, a fable about the jungle escapades of four monkeys from London Zoo, was written and illustrated with 53 intaglio etchings by Christine Tacq. This delightful celebration of free spirit is the best kind of private press book, giving a talented artist scope to frisk and gambol as no other medium could. This *livre d'artiste* from the Rocket Press was limited by the complexity of the printing to just 45 copies, priced £350.

Detractors say that fine presses might just as well be called precious presses: that they are self-conscious and out of touch with the public. Well, some do tend, as one librarian says, to print nothing but "bibliographies of their own bibliographies"; but at their best, they produce many of the most desirable of books.

JIM MCCUE

- ☐ The third Oxford Fine Press Book Fair is being held today at Exeter Hall, Kidlington, near Oxford, from 11am to 5pm.
- ☐ The annual survey, *Matrix*, combines news of new projects with articles on private presses of the past. Price £85, from Whittington Press, Lower Marston Farm, Risbury, Herefordshire.
- ☐ Private press books available from Bertram Rota, 31 Long Acre, London WC2; Rocket Gallery, 13 Old Burlington St, London W1, will stock an international selection.
- ☐ Alembic Press, Hyde Farm, Marcham, Oxford; Clarion Publishing, Neatham Mill, Alton, Hants; Fleece Press, 1 Grey Gables, Netherton, Yorks; Gwasg Gregynog, Newtown, Powys; I. M. Imprimit, 219a Victoria Park Road, London E9; Libanus Press, Silverless St, Marlborough, Wilts; The Old School Press, Hinton Charterhouse, Bath; The Old Stile Press, Catchmays Court, Llandogo, Gwent; Rampant Lions Press, Swan House, Over, Cambridge; Rocket Press, Blewbury, Oxfordshire.



The Rocket Press uses a locomotive logo, here on a type tray

Engraving from *Wrenching Times*

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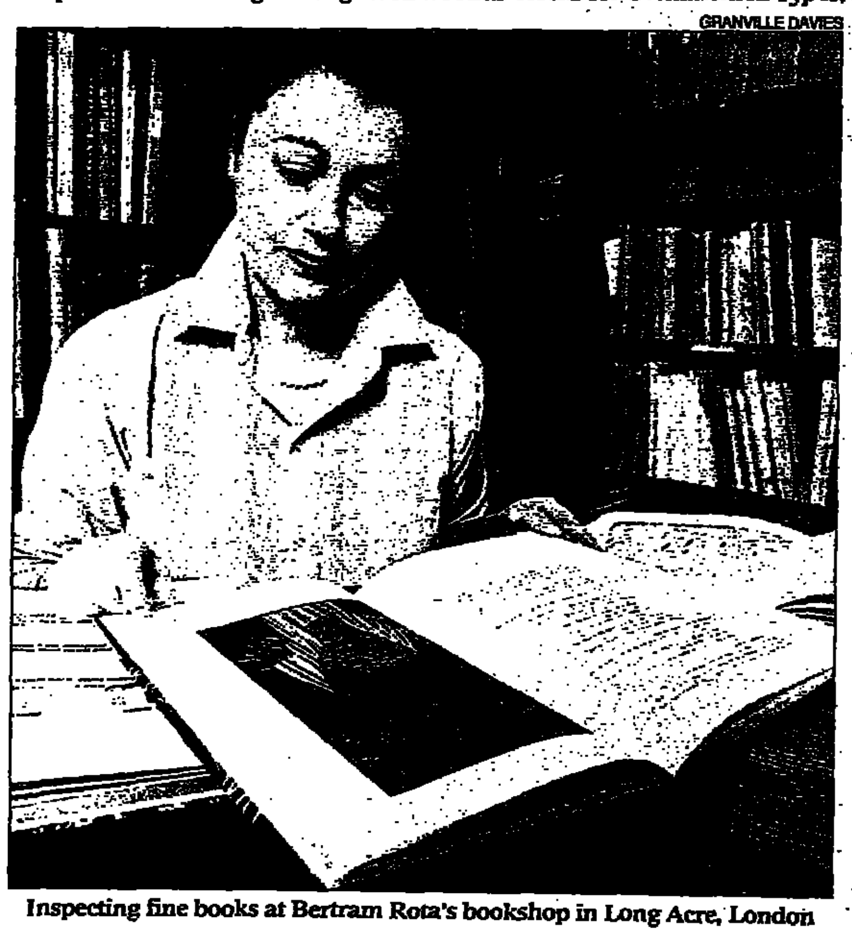

Inspecting fine books at Bertram Rota's bookshop in Long Acre, London

SALEROOM

PREVIEWS

☐ Frank Dobson was rated alongside Jacob Epstein as a leading contemporary sculptor during the 1920s and 1930s. On Monday, the **Jason Rhodes Gallery** in London hopes to restore his reputation with an exhibition of 20 drawings and 14 sculptures, including a polished bronze portrait head of Sir Osbert Sitwell, dated 1922. Sculptures range from £3,500 to £15,000; drawings £2,000 to £4,500.

☐ Psychedelic dresses and "wet-look" macs are back at **Christie's South Kensington** for its "Street Fashion" sale on Tuesday. Offerings range from a mustard-yellow wool Mary Quant dress, circa 1962, trimmed with large leather disc buttons, to a vintage early 1970s white cotton T-shirt decorated with the Sex Pistols' notorious image of HM Queen complete with safety-pin through nose. From £40 to £400.

☐ Also on Tuesday, **Phillips** relaunches its wine department in Oxford with a sale of Clarets, Burgundies and Sauterne, as well as a rare cache of West Indian naval rum, known as "Nelson's Blood". From £110 to £150 per gallon.

REVIEWS

☐ Prices for Dinky toys are fast overtaking those for full-sized vehicles. A pre-war Bentalls delivery van was sold at **Christie's South Kensington** for a world record £12,650, doubling the previous record.

☐ An autograph collection comprising more than 2,000 signatures from pre-war actor, authors and other celebrities sold for £9,100 at **Y Gelli Auctions** in Hay-on-Wye. The highest price of £2,900 went to an album containing 150 signed photographs including the composer Sir Edward Elgar and the singer, Enrico Caruso.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

● *Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (071-581 7611); Jason Rhodes Gallery, 4 New Burlington Street, London W1 (071-434 1768). Phillips, 39 Park End Street, Oxford (0865 723524).*

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92K	300E 24V Blue Black, L, A/C	20T £28,950
94L	E200T White, RFS	9T £24,950
94L	E200T Imperial Red, RFS	12T £24,950
94L	E220T Polar White, RFS	12T £27,950
94L	E280T Nautic Blue, L, A/C	17T £34,950
91H	300TE S/Silver, A/C, RFS	52T £22,950
94L	E300DT Brilliant Silver	13T £27,950
93L	E320C Pearl Blue	18T £38,950
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94L C200	Elegance Blue Black, Grey Cloth, Auto, 8 Hole Alloy Wheels, Rear Head Rests	7T £24,495
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94L E200 Auto esr, ebs, a/bag 9T £24,850	
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92J 230E Auto Met, esr 21T £21,950	
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90G	560SEL Nautic, Leather, Climate, ASR etc etc 44T	£24,950 £448pm*
89G	500SE Diamond, Leather, Air Con, Elec Seats, Cruise 38T	£21,950 £415pm*
93L	E220 Estate Nautic, R/Seat, 8H Alloys, Wal, OTG, Auto 6T	£29,950 £467pm*
92K	230TE Blue Black, R/Seat, Walnut, A/C, HLWW, Auto 11T	£26,950 £395pm*
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92J 300TE 24V. Pearl, ew, tow, rls, esr	£24,995
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90H 230TE. Blue, auto, rls, ew, esr	£18,995
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300SL (C) 86 Champagne/Tan Cloth, Rear Seat, Alloys	25T £23,950
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An executive agency of THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

The British International Motor Show opens today with new cars tailored to specific tastes — but are the differences superficial?

Niche to see you, to see you niche

If Tesco hasn't thought of it yet, then it will. There must be a market for an own-brand car, a motoring equivalent to soap powder which is anonymous but sells because it is cheap, cheerful and efficient, without the brand cachet or loyalty of Persil or Daz.

That sort of car does not yet exist as the rows of metal at the British International Motor Show, which opens to the public today, testify.

But we are not that far from it because the cars that people will see at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, next week are sometimes not what they seem.

The motor industry is moving into a new age: whatever the customer wants can be provided, no matter which company makes it or where it is from.

The marketing men call it filling niches — moving away from mass-producing cars for all and identifying groups, sometimes tiny, of buyers determined to have something different from the rest.

But the economies of mass production mean that every car has to be the same ... at least under the skin. The trick is to make the buyers believe they have got something different.

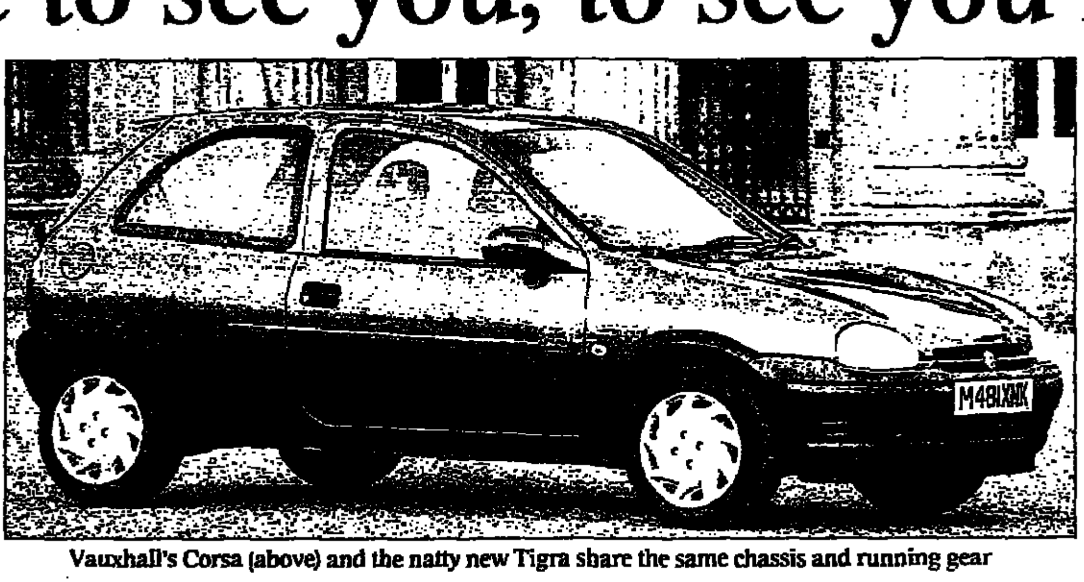
That has led to the age of the niche vehicle, the lines of bulky off-roaders, the multi-purpose vans, the coupés and the sports cars. Some are completely new — a bold statement of intent from a manufacturer — but many are clever reworkings: vehicles with new names and new bodies but which are only sisters under the skin.

Take Vauxhall's natty little Tigra coupé (see page 22). The Tigra has been hailed as a design masterpiece, a concept car brought to life and put on sale for ordinary people to enjoy something special.

Actually, the Tigra is a masterpiece of clever packaging: it is little more than a neat body mounted on a chassis and running gear direct from the tried and trusted Corsa.

But the Tigra looks so different that it will appeal to a completely new set of drivers. The Corsa driver who has chosen a car because he or she wants economy and a model that parks easily is unlikely to look at a sporty two-door. Conversely, the Tigra owner would blanche at the thought of being branded a driver so dull as to be worried about frugality.

Vauxhall — actually its parent company, General Motors — has simply blended the two ideals, taking one basic building block and giving it a new set of clothes to suit the occasion. The result: happy customers and cars made easily on the same assembly lines.



Vauxhall's Corsa (above) and the natty new Tigra share the same chassis and running gear

The notion is not entirely new because Rover and Honda discovered the merits of share-and-share-alike years ago. Buy a new Rover 600 and what you actually get is a Honda Accord but with lots of British bits and pieces and a body which looks completely different to its Japanese sister. Under the skin, however, is what amounts to the same car.

Ford and Nissan did not even go that far. The only difference between Nissan's Terrano and the Ford Maverick 4WD is the badges. They are the same vehicle, made by Nissan in Spain. But Ford needed a 4WD to cash in on the huge growth in the market for off-roaders and decided simply to buy in the Nissan.

Even the most exotic cars these days are likely to be a mix-and-match. One of the stars of the show is Aston Martin's gorgeous new DB7. The bodywork is curvaceous and new but the engine comes from Jaguar and many of the parts, such as switches and door locks, are straight from the parts bin at Ford, Aston Martin's owner.

With sales likely to be no more than 800 cars a year, the DB7 is a luxury that Ford could not afford without the ingenuity of the Aston design team, who realised that there was no point in paying large amounts of money for components they did not need to make.

The straight six-cylinder engine may be from Jaguar but it has been reworked to become Aston Martin through and through. Who cares whether the door locks could be found on a Ford Mondeo if they are among the best in the industry?

Nick Fry, Aston's managing director, says: "Whichever way you look at the DB7, it is as individual as any Aston Martin.

"The point for small manufacturers is that they need to be very critical of the way they spend money. We benefit by having access to Ford's technical knowledge and components."

Also on show are the XJ saloons from Jaguar — another Ford subsidiary — which are all new ... and all Jaguar. But the saloons are probably the last that will use Jaguar-only parts. The next generation of cars will almost certainly be using engines made by Ford's Bridgend plant in South Wales.

Even the platform, the most important part of the car on which the suspension, engine, running gear and body must fit, could be shared with other luxury cars made in the USA, to save money.

The fewer the platforms, the fewer the components designed and bought in, the less the cost. Does that mean the less the car? Not if the new offerings are anything to go by.

In a world of conformity, the carmakers are finding more ways to make their cars more interesting to more people so that they can enjoy some individuality at the wheel. The NEC tells the whole story this week.

K. E.

● *The International Motor Show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, is open daily until Oct 30 from 9.30am to 7pm*

"Cars in this sector of the market — where about 80 per cent are bought by fleets — are very conservative. The time is right for something radical and new," says one of the designers

Car with a sting in its tail

With its wide grille and bulging headlamps, the new Scorpio from Ford is a radical design departure, provoking strong reactions, says **Kevin Eason**

The trouble with innovation is that the rest of us sometimes take a while to catch up with new styles. Ford's corporate fingers were badly burned a decade ago with the launch of the Sierra, then a radical new shape but one which the public hated until eventually other carmakers copied it.

Since then, Ford has resisted anything too dramatic until now, with the Scorpio which replaces the popular Granada. The looks on the faces of journalists assembled to test drive the range that makes its debut this week at the British International Motor Show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, suggested that history might repeat itself.

The curious wide grille and bulging headlamps that give the Scorpio the appearance of a demented bullfrog stunned some into silence and left others grimacing.

But Andrew McColm, one of the design team from Dunton, Essex, was quite right to dismiss initial reactions because the Scorpio really is innovative and a welcome change to the usual bland offerings from the executive carmakers.

There could be no mistaking that nose even in a long line of traffic. From the rear, the expanse of boot with the thin lighting strip may echo some shapes familiar in American cars, but in Europe it is absolutely distinctive.

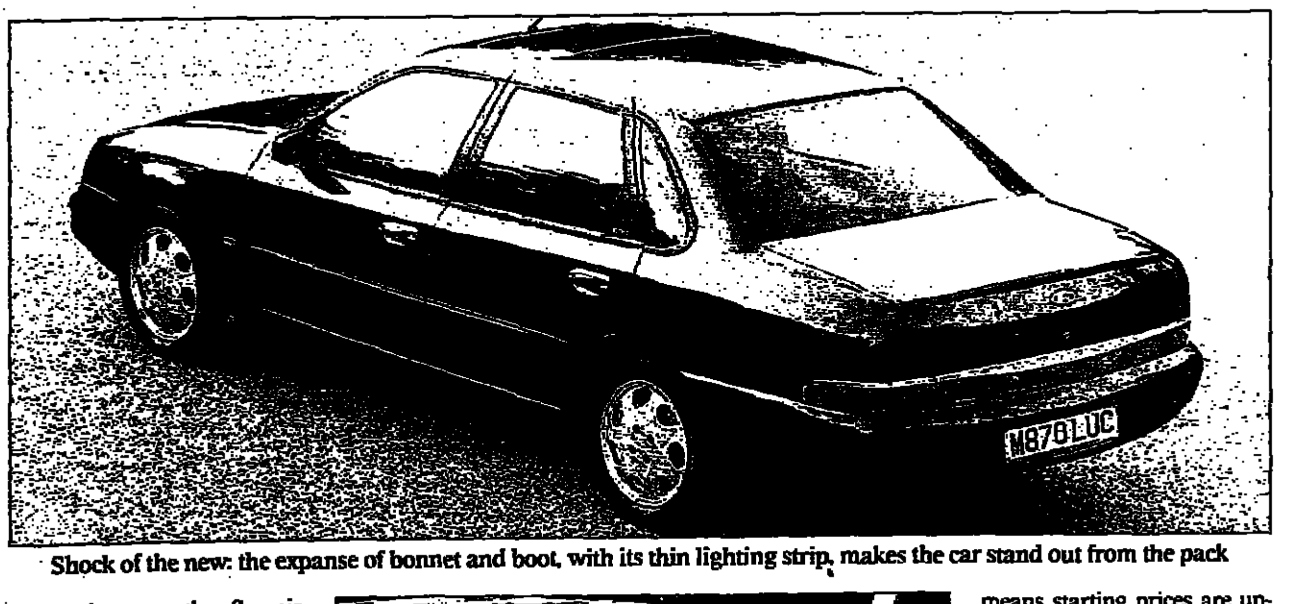
There is no doubt that the style takes some getting used to, and photographs do little justice to the Scorpio. Visitors to the NEC will almost certainly decide that the car in the metal is a much more attractive proposition.

Mr McColm certainly hopes so. "We thought long and hard about the way the Scorpio should look," he says. "Cars in this sector of the market — where about 80 per cent are bought by fleets — tend to be very conservative.

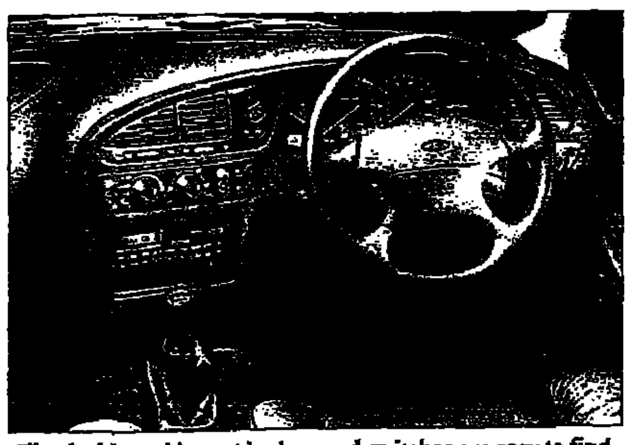
"But we think the time is right for something radical and new. Buyers want something different. They are bored with owning a car that looks like everyone else's.

"The Scorpio is that departure. The reaction to the look has been very strong but we expected that — and we believe it will take time for people to adjust and get used to it."

I did. After some doubts, I started to fall for the car's bizarre nose and tail, probably because it took me back to childhood. Those were the days when every car had a grille and I played a game with my brother trying to decide whether cars had faces that were happy or angry.



Shock of the new: the expanse of bonnet and boot, with its thin lighting strip, makes the car stand out from the pack



The dashboard layout is clear and switches are easy to find

The Scorpio's frogface is definitely a smiler — but the skin is only part of the story of the car which is aimed at Britain's middle managers.

There are four petrol engines in 2-litre and 2.9-litre form and a 2.5-litre diesel in saloon and estate formats. The base 2-litre, eight-valve engine is a little lumpy for such a refined body style. But the 2-litre models will form the bulk of a range that relies on increasingly cost-conscious company car drivers. That means starting prices are unlikely to be much more than the current entry level of £16,000 in spite of the improvements in the all-new car.

Those improvements show on the road with the Scorpio pleasingly responsive and easy to handle. The ride is comfortable but Ford may have to work harder on cutting down road and engine noise which is intrusive, particularly for a car in this class.

But that is offset by excellent Ford hi-fi systems and a driving position which is as comfortable as any car in the class. Ford has repackaged the interior so every switch is easy to find. The dashboard layout is clear and the radio control has been moved up to a fingertip stalk on the steering column.

Seats are plush and firm and there is enough headroom and legroom front and back to accommodate a quartet of basketball players. The boot in the saloon is cavernous, with the lip at knee height for easy loading, while the estate's luggage area is so big, that Volvo drivers, who for years have boasted there was never anything else big enough to carry their luggage, will have to think again.

In common with all new Fords, the Scorpios are equipped with the latest anti-theft gadgetry — alarm, immobiliser and high security double locks — and a cluster of standard features that now includes the offer of a free mobile telephone.

Ford discovered that drivers, particularly women, are feeling increasingly insecure and want some way to call for help in an emergency. Ford's Cellnet phone, which normally retails at £149.99, has an emergency button linked direct to the RAC.

Ian McAllister, Ford of Britain chairman, says: "Mobile telephones came up again and again in our research."

Around 100,000 people are expected to take up the offer — which costs £9.99 for monthly line rental — including the fleet customers who will probably make up the bulk of Scorpio buyers.

THE FORD SCORPIO

Price: *to be announced.*

Engine: 2-litre 8-valve, 2-litre 16-valve, 2.9-litre 12-valve, 2.9-litre 24-valve by Cosworth and 2.5-litre, four-cylinder turbo-diesel. Five-speed manual and four-speed automatic gearboxes are available.

Features: include driver's airbag, seat-belt "grabbers" and pre-tensioners, external alarm, engine immobiliser, new high-security locks, sunroof, power steering, powered windows, pollen filter on air-conditioning, rear view mirrors that dip for reversing.

STEERING COLUMN

Muriel Gray

Muriel Gray, one of television's most forthright presenters, has just published her first novel, *The Trickster* (HarperCollins, £12.99), a thriller set in the Canadian Rockies.

She also returns to Channel 4 this week with a new eight-part series, *Ride On*, which takes a radical look at transport systems. She is taken for the flight of her life in a Russian MiG 25 fighter plane, and joins the American paparazzi who use helicopters to pursue their victims. She also looks at attempts to silence road protestors through the Criminal Justice Bill, and challenges the police, fire and ambulance services to justify the accidents that happen as a result of vehicles speeding to an emergency.

A keen motorist, she says: "Having driven for years, I still say the best moment was when I drove an eight-litre Dodge Viper up and down a three-mile stretch of closed runway in San Francisco for my three-part Channel 4 car series, *Carnography*, earlier this year."

The series was not without its moments of high drama. She took Sir Terence Conran on an awayday from London to Nice to test the new Porsche 911 Carrera. Sir Terence, the design guru, has handled many Porsches in his time, but a local French driver, showing no respect or awareness of the sparkling 911, reversed into the back of it. Ms Gray's earthy off-camera expletives were not deleted from the show. She is refusing to say whether there are any similar calamities in her latest series.

Ms Gray, who is married with one son, runs her own television production company in Glasgow, Ideal World. She sprang to fame as a presenter on *The Tube*. Apart from *Carnography*, her recent credits include the award-winning *Snow Show*.

How did you first learn to drive?
I learnt to drive when I was about 22, and in common with most people I don't think I could ever manage without wheels. I had lessons in a Fiat 500 without a synchromesh gearbox. This created problems. I had to double declutch.

What was your first car?
A Fiat 500. It was my first love. I wish I had never got rid of it. But while it was the sweetest car in the world, I have never had a car which I have really disliked. But I always make sure I go on a long journey armed with a packet of my favourite sweets, wine gums.

What car do you drive now and why?
A Peugeot 205 GTi 1.9. It is wee, fast, cheap and unpretentious. It's a bit old now. But I also drive my husband's Ford Bronco V8. It is six litres of four-wheel-drive fun.

Do you enjoy driving?
I love it unless I am tired. Then I hate it. I drive fast, within the law, and sometimes impatiently. I once drove at 130mph in a car. It was legal as it was not on a public road. I have been even faster than that but, I have to admit, I was not behind the wheel. Spending many hours on the road, it is surprising that I have never crashed when I am behind the wheel. But I have crashed many times as a passenger.

What is your dream car?
A McLaren F1. But I really want another Fiat 500.

Which is your most hated car?
A Citroën 2CV — adults in dungarees driving nursery cars. Yuk! Or any car driven by the Royal family since I helped to pay for it.

What is your worst habit in the car?
When no one is looking I pick my nose and wipe my fingers on things like the outside of the door. Once I chased a lorry for two miles which had forced me into a lane of oncoming traffic. I had only seconds to find a gap. So when I caught up I flashed him to pull in, and when he got out, I punched him in the face. The drivers who were behind me when it happened, and would have crashed if I hadn't taken evasive action, joined the chase. They stopped and shook my hand, but it was sore. Punching someone in the face is not as easy as it looks.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?
Aggression.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in your car?
I shaved my legs. I was on my way to a studio. I was stuck in a traffic jam and running behind schedule. So I decided to utilise my time. Once I was followed off the motorway by some guys in a van who were flashing and gesticulating. I drew the window down and gave them the finger before shooting off. When I got to the office I found my handbag was on the roof.

If you were Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?
Make all public transport free. It would change the world. I would certainly happily pay more tax to fund it.

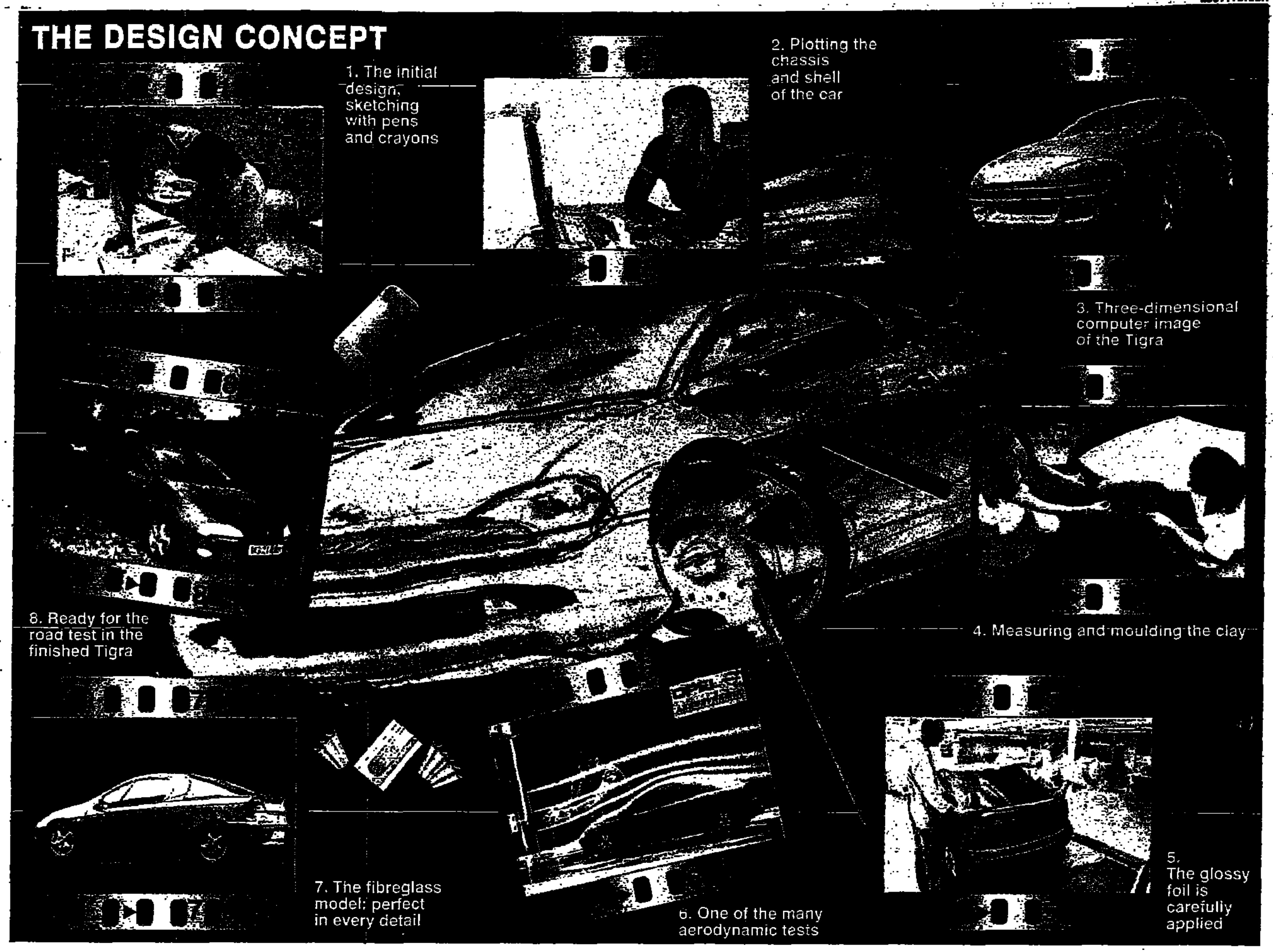
ANDREW PIERCE

Muriel Gray: once chased and punched a lorry driver

هكذا من الأصل

From a paper Tigra to hot-shot coupé

A *Times* graphic designer sees how the sporty new Vauxhall got its looks


LUCY PAWSON
THE DESIGN CONCEPT
1. The initial design: sketching with pens and crayons
2. Plotting the chassis and shell of the car
3. Three-dimensional computer image of the Tigra
4. Measuring and moulding the clay
5. The glossy foil is carefully applied
6. One of the many aerodynamic tests
7. The fibreglass model: perfect in every detail
8. Ready for the road test in the finished Tigra

Somehow, it should all be much more like a sci-fi movie. The idea is that modern cars are created by computers and robots beating an electrical rhythm that needs no men. But, surprisingly, designing the car of the future starts in a much more basic way: with a pad of paper, a set of crayons, marker pens and, perhaps, some charcoal.

The designers at General Motors were set the task of giving Vauxhall, and its sister group, Opel, in Germany, a new coupé that would rock some of the conventions of building a small car.

Drawing a car sounds easy, but the designers were working to a tough brief from day one. The style had to fit an age, income and lifestyle profile already researched by GM's marketing department. The buyers were going to be young, upwardly mobile and interested in their car. No surprise there. But drawing a car that would attract them in sufficient numbers to pay back the multi-million pound investment in the Tigra, Vauxhall's new sporty coupé, looks easier than it was.

The only course was for the designers to make sketches until they hit on a shape that would work. And that is what they did, as I found out when I visited GM's design studios at Rüsselsheim, near Stuttgart.

Rüsselsheim, is an unpromising location for a design studio, as I discovered by looking around my hotel bedroom: a dowdy concoction of brown bedspreads, curtains and beige walls. GM's studio looked from the outside like little more than a factory. But inside the studio was an explosion of colours — and ideas. Dozens of shapes were drawn and explored before the designers switched on their multi-million pound CAD/CAM computer (computer-aided design, computer-aided manufacture), which is programmed with such sophisticated software that it can plot shape, size and even how the car will operate.

The co-ordinates of a basic chassis were plotted on screen, incorporating two or four human shapes to ensure that the car would have sufficient legroom. The outside shapes of the car were constantly changed: bumpers could be rounded or square, grooves included in the body work. If they wanted to try five wheel spokes, a touch of a button and they had them.

Once the shape was established, the designers turned to colour. Simply by pressing buttons, highlights, shadows and tones were added. The car was rotated on screen so that the designers could study it from all angles, looking for highlights and curves under different lighting conditions.

Then, as if by magic, they "exported" the car on screen to the environments in which it would be seen most often: dashing along an open road or stuck in a traffic jam; even in a showroom, where most buyers would first see the Tigra.

The whole creation was then projected life-size on to a wall so that the designers could start the first stage of the selling process — to convince their bosses that this was the car they wanted to make.

The design then turned from computer graphics to lumps of clay. Tons of clay were poured and beaten on to a metal frame with a hard foam lining until the shape of the Tigra, perfect in every detail, emerged.

When the model was complete, a gloss foil was applied to create the appearance of a painted surface. If bumps or dents were spotted, the foil was stripped and the offending imperfection corrected.

From there, the clay model was taken to a wind tunnel for aerodynamic testing to ensure that its shape would cut through the air to enhance both engine performance and fuel economy. The physical construction of the car was only part of the story, however. Company researchers constantly conduct surveys, showing members of the public colour samples and interior fabrics. Paints are tested for durability for three years in different locations, such as the blinding light of the Arizona desert, and are tagged with catchy names, such as Jungle Green, Marseille Red and Apache, which is a "goldie-bronze colour".

The surveys showed, for example, that the Italian market is much more reserved than the British and rejected many of the more eccentric colours, including Apache. Why the British did not reject it, too, is beyond me. It will be on our streets soon, and GM is claiming it will be a hit. I hope they are wrong.

While the clay models were being constructed, the studios making interiors started their brief to find the right style of fabrics and trims. That exercise entailed the Rüsselsheim designers visiting fashion centres all over the world, noting styles and colours.

The results of their research baffle me. Why is it that designers assume that young people want interiors that look like Technicolored disaster areas? Twenty-somethings, like me, might enjoy bright colours, but style amounts to more than a haphazard splash of colour.

By this time, the money men had given the go-ahead for a perfect glass-fibre model to be made, with the tiniest details added and the doors open. Even the locks were in place. These models were taken to "clinics" and motor shows as concepts to find out whether anyone wanted the Tigra. Reaction told GM that a convertible was a "miss" but the hardtop, to be released in November, would become the star of Vauxhall showrooms.

The process of creating a new car was long and so tortuous that I am no longer surprised at the cost of cars, such is the effort put into the design, engineering, promotion and distribution. And on driving the Tigra I found the effort well worth it. Although the model I drove was in the garish Apache, it still turned heads, especially when, to Vauxhall's embarrassment, one of the headlamps fell off outside my mother's house.

The Tigra is almost as small as my Metro, which makes it easy to park, though the high rear window reduces visibility. The interior height is rather low — the designers obviously expect Tigra buyers to be shorter than my 5ft 11in. I drove the 1.6 litre version, which really shifts; I could easily have driven at 100mph.

Now, after my stint with GM's designers, I find myself staring at cars in the street and wondering why the bumper is curved in that way? Why has the bonnet been designed at that angle?

Only the designers, and the money men, know. But, maybe, it was the designer who had the last word — because he or she wanted it that way.

LUCY PAWSON

VAUXHALL TIGRA

Price: £10,995 for 1.4 litre, £12,995 for 1.6 litre.

Engine: 1.4 or 1.6 twin-cam, 16-valve petrol. Automatic for 1.4 in 1995.

Features: driver's airbag (also passenger's on 1.6), power steering, anti-lock brakes, engine immobiliser, alarm, central locking doors, electric windows, sunroof and door mirrors, radio/cassette, alloy wheels.

Performance: 1.4, 0-60mph in 10.5sec, top speed 118mph; 1.6, 0-60mph in 9.5 sec, top speed 126mph.

Fuel consumption: 1.4, 56.5mpg at 56mph; 1.6, 55.4mpg at 56mph.

DRIVEN MAD

Range Rover

Furious Range Rover owner Brian Herrick has taken one of Land Rover's own £38,000 cars hostage in an effort to resolve a long-running battle over his four-wheel-drive vehicle.

Now the Solihull manufacturer is taking legal action to recover its car. Land Rover loaned Mr Herrick the top-of-the-range courtesy car when his own M-reg Range Rover went wrong within days of his buying it.

Mr Herrick, who claims he has spent up to a quarter of a million pounds on various new Range Rovers over the years, only for them to suffer faults including an engine fire, collapsed seats, gearbox failure and steering problems, says the latest problem is the final straw.

Back in March when we first highlighted his ill-fated love affair with Range Rovers, the Rover Group chief executive, John Towers, stepped in to ensure that Mr Herrick's newest vehicle was tip-top.

But the jinx that plagues the Somerset businessman continued. Within two days and 400 miles of taking delivery of the Range Rover SE, from specialist dealers Hartwells of Bristol, Mr Herrick claims it suffered a catastrophic transmission failure.

Now he is keeping the courtesy car, which should have been returned in September, while he holds out for a replacement of his own vehicle or repayment of the £38,000 he paid.

With the stand-off continuing, so does the legal action. Watch this space.

VAUGHAN FREEMAN

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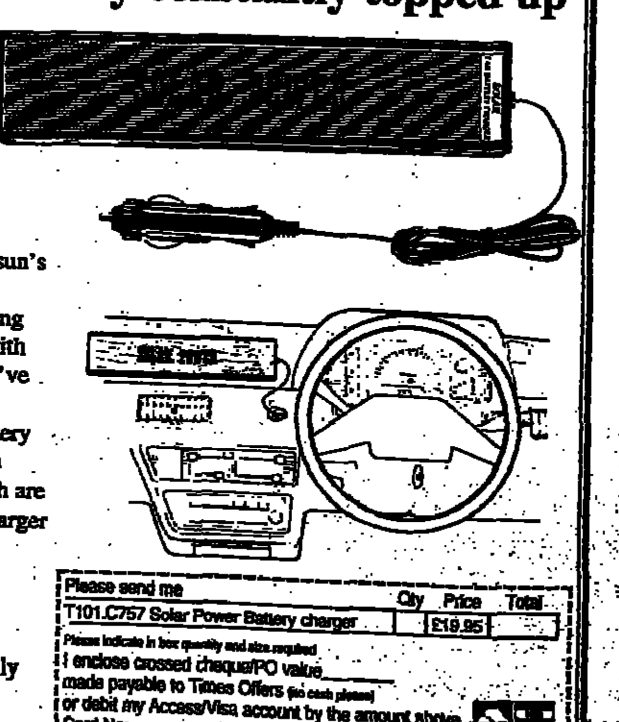

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WEEKEND BREAK: A taste of Vienna, a city once that straddled the East-West divide — with a dash of Lime

The city that thrives on Big Wheels

It was time to kill off Harry Lime once and for all. No one in their *right mind* would abandon a bright morning on the streets of Vienna, with the smell of fresh coffee and newly baked bread in the air, to go tourist chasing after a film villain in rat-infested sewers. I was not going to let Orson Welles's wheeler-dealer character from the *Third Man* become a pain in the itinerary. A bit of fictional nostalgia is OK by me, but hanging about with rats?

Mrs Streubel, the guide, looked surprised, but pleased, when I suggested we ignore all things Harry Limeish.

Above ground, visitors concentrate around the pleasantly car-free historic city centre. Pigeons leave the Gothic tracery of St Stephen's Cathedral to snatch crumbs of pricey chocolate cake from café tables, street violinists play Hungarian folk tunes and Viennese waltzes, and horse-carriages clatter over cobbles. If this were a scene in a movie, the "wait-for-it" theme from the strings would be starting about now. And sure enough, a Viennese friend pointed out a group of dour bruisers in flash suits coming out of the Hôtel Sacher. Musicians? "Russian soldiers," she said, "flogging the family plutonium." She didn't seem to be joking.

The baroque and rococo splendours of the Belvedere and Schönbrunn palaces, the fabulous art museum of the Habsburgs, and the Hofburg Palace, are an easy walk from St Stephen's Cathedral. But it is curious how soon after setting out in almost any direction from the historic centre, tourists of the camcorder-toting variety become quite rare.

Instead, the hard reality of post-Soviet Europe will probably come into view in the form of a refugee wearing thin Russian denim and trying to sell you a scentless rose.

Gypsies from Romania, Russian ex-soldiers, old-faced young men on one-way tickets from the ruins of Yugoslavia, teenage girls earning the sort of money for a night's patrol of the Outer Ring that would be a fortune back home in Slovakia ... Vienna, as always, is the weather-vane that tells which way the political winds in Europe are blowing.

The city's melting-pot nature can be seen at the Saturday flea-market, three stops on the underground from the cathedral, at Kettenbrückengasse. Here, Turks preside over piles of vegetables and fruit, Pakistanis and Chinese sell jeans and T-shirts, and gypsies seem to have cornered the market in old musical instruments. Impromptu duets and trios start up as prospective punters try out violins and cellos.

"These last for a life time — and then another," a German visitor said, taking off his trousers in the crowded market place and trying on some rustic-looking £40-a-pair old *lederhosen*.

"It is typical British prudishness," Mrs Streubel thundered, just because I hadn't seen fit to whip off *my* trousers to try on the stock. "Ach! I know what it is," she said cruelly as we walked on. "You have not been to all these people introduced."

At another stall, a large Bohemian glass "witch" ball, an unlikely survivor of both world wars, cost me £12, but I was saved from acquiring a collection of old fountain pens by Mrs Streubel's lunch schedule.

Food is a serious subject in Vienna; none of your *nouvelle cuisine* nonsense; we're talking dumplings, goulash, boiled beef, sausages and sauerkraut, and the kind of tarts and puddings with cream which are probably illegal in Jane Fondaland. After this kind of a lunch, I found myself sleepily following my guide around the Prater fun park, apparently something that *had* to be seen.

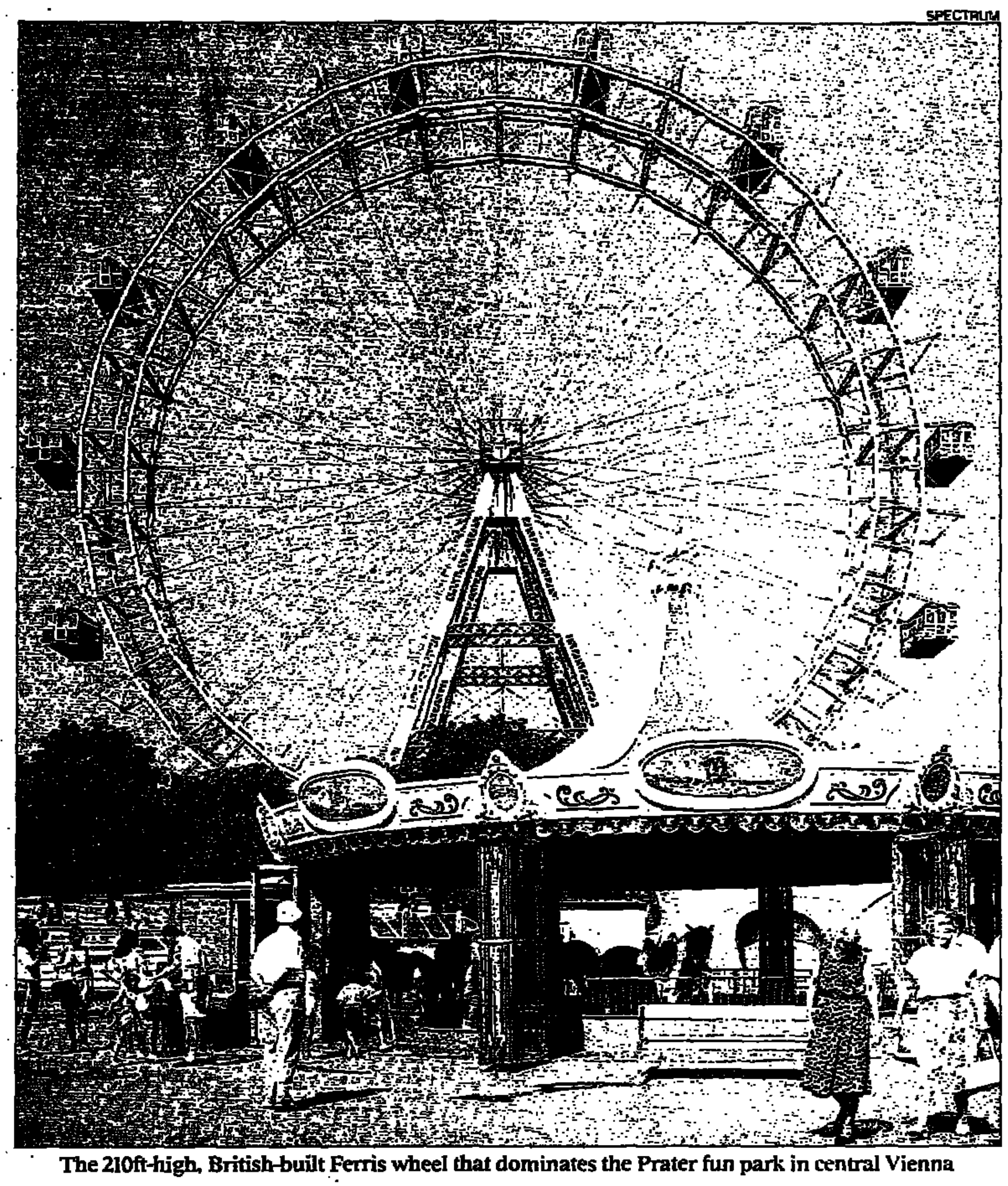
A sign said, *Liliputbahn*. The Prater's miniature train would be a restful way of seeing the whole fun park, I thought, leading the way. Mrs Streubel kept saying, "Are you really sure you want us to go on this?", as we squeezed into narrow seats. Then, with a clank we set off, and I settled back for a semi-snooze.

There was a strange sensation of being lifted into cool air. The blaring sounds of arcades seemed to fade away. This was definitely not the *Liliputbahn*. "I tried to tell you," Mrs Streubel said. "This is something else." I opened my eyes. We were in the middle of the sky. The whole fun park was laid out below. I saw the *Liliputbahn* making its sedate way, between the linden trees. Mrs Streubel gripped her straw hat and smiled: "I've never dared go on this one before," she said.

I was staring at white knuckles and contemplating suicide, insurance, the pros and cons of big lunches, and how to avoid looking down. "See". Mrs Steubel said excitedly, "*that's* what I wanted to show you: that Ferris wheel over there, the *Reisenrad;* that is the one in the film where he ..."

"Don't tell me," I moaned as our car rolled over the high metal cliff that is the start of Prater's notorious Death Looper ride, and accelerated earthwards like an out-of-control lift. "Damned Harry Lime ..."

BILL POWELL



SPECTRUM

The 210ft-high, British-built Ferris wheel that dominates the Prater fun park in central Vienna

On the trail of the Third Man

Coming off the 210ft-high Ferris wheel in Vienna's Prater park, Harry Lime, the racketeer played by Orson Welles in the film *The Third Man*, pronounced one of the great movie lines: "In Italy for 30 years under the Borgias they had warfare, terror and murder, bloodshed, but they produced Michelangelo, Leonardo and the Renaissance. In Switzerland they had brotherly love, they had 500 years of democracy and peace, and what did that produce? The cuckoo clock."

Post-war Austria, with its Waldheims and Kreiskys, has been positioned firmly in the cuckoo-clock camp of history. When Carol Reed made *The Third Man* in 1948, Vienna was a bombed-out shell. But, after nearly half a century of straddling the East-West divide, it is rediscovering its former position as the intellectual heart of Central Europe.

The Ferris wheel, built by the British firm of Walter Bassett in 1897, still turns sedately. Indeed, most of the features of Harry Lime's rubble-strewn Vienna remain. An enterprising English-speaking guide, Dr Brigitte Timmermann, has linked them together for a stimulating 90-minute walking tour of the city centre.

The tour starts at the grand old Hôtel Sacher. One sits outside and orders fresh coffee and the house speciality, *Sacher-torte*, the rich chocolate cake which epitomises Vienna's easy-going bourgeois lifestyle. This is a good place for soaking in the atmsophere, contemporary and historical. When the Lime film's scriptwriter, Graham Greene, stayed here, the State Opera House across the street had been virtually destroyed in American air-raids. The hotel itself was commandeered by the British, one of four occupying armies in the city.

A five-minute stroll from the hotel brings one to Josefsplatz, dominated by an early 19th-century statue of the Emperor Joseph II. The Hofburg Palace, an official residence of the Habsburgs, encompasses two sides of the square. Lime's house, the classical Pallavicini Palace, stands on another.

Behind the Pallavicini, and its imposing street-level caryatids, runs a series of narrow streets, many retaining the peeling, greyish pallor Reed used to introduce a dramatic element of *chiarascuro*.

Winding round the back of Petersplatz, close to the richly Gothic St Stephen's Cathedral, one walks through the oldest part of the city to Hoher Markt, reputedly the site of the Roman praesidium.

Backtracking, one arrives at Am Hof Platz, now an anonymous square with well-scrubbed paving stones. About 40 years ago in *The Third Man* it had a wooden kiosk, plastered with billboards. Running from his friend, Holly Martins, Lime escaped into the kiosk and disappeared down the sewers.

Another fascinating side-trip is to take the number 71 tram from Schwarzenburgplatz, near the State Opera House. Four-and-a-half miles down the Rennweg, past factories and shopping malls, is the Central Cemetery. Graves, including those of Beethoven and Mozart, are laid out in orderly fashion along gracious tree-lined avenues. Lime was initially (but mistakenly) buried here, subsequently disinterred and finally laid to rest.

Dr Timmerman, through her walks, manages to raise his ghost once more in bustling, modern Vienna.

ANDREW LYCETT

● *For details of Dr Timmermann's walking tour of Vienna, "In the Footsteps of* The Third Man*", telephone Vienna Guides on 010-43 1 443 0940.*

Travel details

☐ Bill Powell travelled to Vienna courtesy of Travelscene (081-427 4445), which offers a range of breaks from two-nights at £235, including three or four-star hotel accommodation and flights from Heathrow, Gatwick and Manchester.

☐ British Airways (0345 222111) has three flights a day to Vienna from Heathrow and one a day from Gatwick. Midweek returns from £189, weekends from £199. Austrian Airlines (071-434 7300), offers two flights a day from Heathrow.

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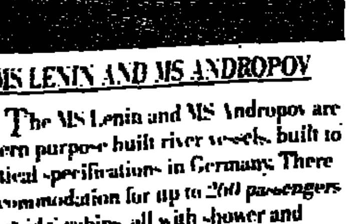

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1 Feb 95	Tosca (3 Feb), Der Rosenkavalier (4 Feb)	AM SCHUBERTRING £525
8 Feb 95	Les Contes d'Hoffman (9 Feb), Der Rosenkavalier (11 Feb)	
1 Mar 95	Andrea Chenier (1 Mar), Madama Butterfly (4 Mar)	ASTORIA £550
8 Mar 95	Le nozze di Figaro (10 Mar), La traviata (11 Mar)	SACHER £780
15 Mar 95	Il barbiere di Siviglia (15 Mar), Tosca (16 Mar)	
29 Mar 95	Le nozze di Figaro (31 Mar), Don Giovanni (1 Apr) — **Price per person** * K & K MARIA THERESIA £495 AM SCHUBERTRING £530 ASTORIA £550 SACHER £780	
5 Apr 95	Der Rosenkavalier (7 Apr), Le nozze di Figaro (8 Apr)	
13 Apr 95	Rigoletto (15 Apr), Tristan und Isolde (16 Apr)	K & K MARIA THERESIA £550
21 Apr 95	Il trovatore (22 Apr), Herodiade (24 Apr)	
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17 May 95	Il barbiere di Siviglia (19 May), I Puritani (20 May)	
24 May 95	La Bohéme (25 May), Tosca (27 May)	SACHER £780
31 May 95	Die Zauberflöte (31 May), Don Giovanni (1 Jun)	
7 Jun 95	Il barbiere di Siviglia (9 Jun), Les contes d'Hoffman (10 Jun)	
Escorted Tours		
1 Mar 95	Andrea Chenier (1 Mar), The Fiery Angel (4 Mar - the Volksoper)	
8 Mar 95	L'elisir d'amore (8 Mar), Ariadne auf Naxos (9 Mar)	RATHAUSPARK £595
22 Mar 95	Die Zauberflöte (24 Mar - the Volksoper), Otello (25 Mar)	
4 May 95	Lucia di Lammermoor (5 May), Manon (6 May)	RATHAUSPARK £650
2 Jun 95	Don Giovanni (4 Jun), Die Zauberflöte (5 Jun - the Volksoper)	RATHAUSPARK £675

*Single room supplements per night. £24 for K & K Maria Theresia and Astoria; £30 for Am Schubertring and Sacher; £18 for Rathauspark. Flight supplements on Independent Tours: London Heathrow £20; Manchester £50. Items not included: Holiday Insurance £20.95 (4 nights), £29.45 (9 nights). Passport, visas and vaccinations; Meals, unless otherwise stated. Guaranteed no currency surcharges. Prices may fluctuate e.g. due to fuel increases: we will absorb any increases up to 2% of the total invoice price (excluding insurance premiums).

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BALI: A backpacker swops the hard life for the hedonistic and finds true love

Cupid strikes on dream isle

I arrived at the Four Seasons hotel at dusk. The view was hazy, but this was clearly not a conventional hotel. Where was the glass-fronted building rising to 16 storeys? Instead, I saw thatched roofs terracing down towards a glossy black sea. The hotel lobby, an open-sided pavilion, was furnished and peopled in understated elegance, which made me nervous. After three weeks of budget backpacking around the Indonesian islands I was dirty and fraying at the edges.

The receptionist found the number of my villa and indicated a chauffeur-driven buggy to take me there, but I said I'd rather walk. This wasn't true: the refusal was more a statement of my awe at the place.

The walk took me along walled paths overhung with flowers. Statues nestled in the bushes and shrines were slotted into corners. I found the entrance to my villa, a tall, softly painted gate in a stone doorway.

As I entered the villa, I thought I had taken the wrong direction and was intruding on someone else's living room. Then I realised this was *my* living room. A gravel path led from it to an open-sided pavilion-style dining room/lounge. Beyond it water shone in the lamplight and black leaves moved under a breeze — my private pool in my private garden. The door to my left slid open to reveal a vast bed swathed in flimsy cloth. Beyond that was the dressing room and a bathroom, its centrepiece a huge free-standing bath.

I stood in wonder and thought, why am I alone? I dialled my boyfriend in northern Java and soon he was on a plane to Bali.

Later, cavorting in my pool, I looked across the sweep of Jimbaran Bay to a row of lights that marked the airport runway, and watched his plane descend. Soon he was at my door: within an hour he proposed. The Four Seasons could wreck the life of even the most incurably unromantic. "Diminished responsibility," my boyfriend later claimed.

Many guests spend all day "at home". The villas are nests of peace and privacy, perfect for honeymoon couples, clandestine business deals, celebrities trying to hide from fame.

The resort is divided into seven villages, each of about 20 villas built around a central square. There are six family villas, larger versions of the same, and two vast royal villas built like film sets and equipped with more pools than bedrooms.

As in the Balinese tradition, each village has its chief. Mine was Ginting, a manager-cum-butler who paraded his patch in an elegant sarong, clutching a clipboard. Ginting came from a farming family in north Sumatra. He brought them to the Four Seasons and they could hardly believe it. "For years they lived in the mountainous areas and had never seen the sea," he said. Where they come from, the cost of one night in Ginting's royal villa ($1,750, about £1,000, from December) could feed a family of five for nearly three years.

The rest of the resort, checked out in daylight, revealed more swimming pools of various shapes, sizes and temperatures; a waterfall cascading into a central grove; paths twisting enticingly towards the dining room, shops, temple, health spa, beach.

Jimbaran Bay, on the south peninsula of Bali, is a four-mile stretch of uncrowded, luxurious sand. The Four Seasons and its neighbouring Bali Intercontinental hotel are the only upmarket Balinese hotels that catch the sunset. The Intercontinental was where I went next. This is a more conventional hotel but designed with unconventional élan. Built around an artificial lake, with swans, fountains and rainbows intruding into pools, the grounds are thick with Balinese decor; stone frogs praying at the temple, turtles spouting water for the children, and the usual selection of dragons, gargoyles and bathing belles. Looking up from the main swimming pool towards the palm-fringed ocean it was almost impossible to see where the pool ended and the sea began.

My room, in a wing reserved for Club Intercontinental guests, was roughly three times the size of the entire house of an Indonesian villager. There was a choice of four restaurants. I ate chicken steamed in banana leaves and picked at a banquet of fish, waited on by smiling Indonesian men in traditional dress.

A stay at the Intercontinental, for all its glamour, costs substantially less than at the Four Seasons and accommodates far more guests. Both draw greedily on indigenous craft and spread across the landscape rather than slicing vertically through it. Since 1972 no one has been allowed to build higher than the highest coconut tree lest they intrude on the sanctuary of goddesses and gods.

Bali, 80 miles north to south and 155 miles across, can be explored in a couple of weeks. Most of its 2.7 million people are farmers, nearly all Hindu. For an island that pulled in 3½ million tourists this year, probably rising to 6½ million by the year 2000, Bali is spectacularly unspoilt.

Bali Sunday, an upmarket tour company, offers a choice of tours taking in villages which dot across the island like a rural shopping arcade, each specialising in a particular craft: Batubulan is for stone carving and Mas for wood; Ubud is the artists' hang-out, silver reigns in Celuk and weaving in Batuam.

Red, a Bali Sunday tour guide, took me to Tenganan, a walled village of 150 families. Buffalo lie around the square — a buffalo is sacrificed every ten years in thanks for good harvests — and homes are decked out in weavings, painted masks and baskets, combined in colourful displays. The Tenganan regime is strict and structured under two leaders, religious and political. Malcontents and miscreants are kicked out.

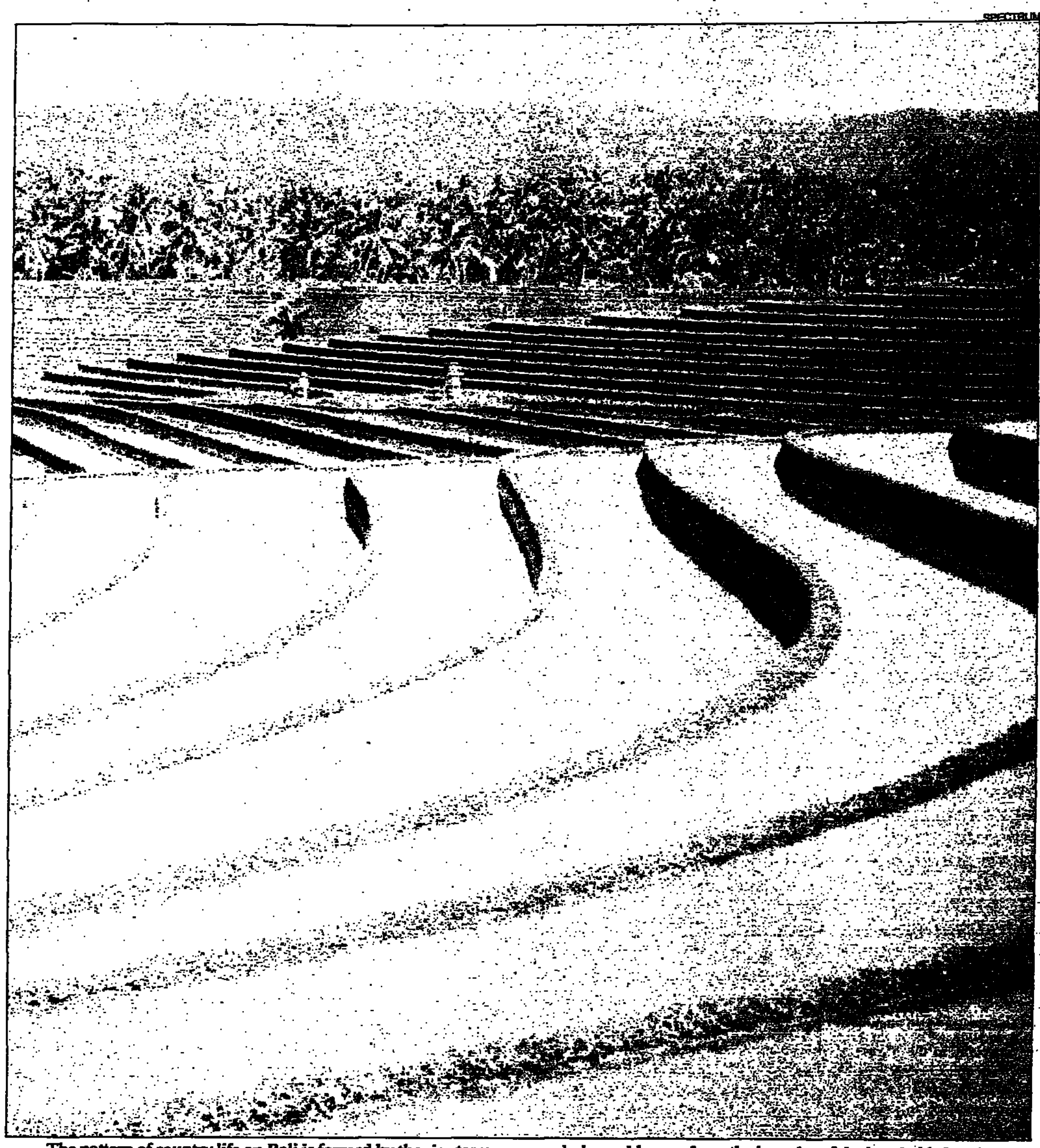
I left Jimbaran and ended my Bali stint in Padang Bai, an eastern fishing village fringed by a coral reef alive with starfish and a beach built of coral chips; white, angular fragments washed up like a vast graveyard of miniature bones.

I arrived there by night, and booked the nearest room. It had once-white walls turned filthy and flecked with tiny bloodstains, the remnants of mosquitoes slapped by tortured occupants. There was a lumpy mattress that challenged all sleep, a light that barely worked, a mirror that magnified every disappointment. The lavatory was of the crouch-and-leap variety, with a bathroom smell that seeped across the tiles and corrupted my dreams.

Still, it was different — and not bad for a couple of pounds a night.

LUCY BERRINGTON

SPECTRUM



The pattern of country life on Bali is formed by the rice terraces — a whole world away from the luxuries of the beachside hotels

How to get there and where to stay

☐ Lucy Berrington was a guest of Elegant Resorts (0244 350408) and STA Travel (071-937 9962), which offers flights to Jakarta by British Airways at £624 or Kuwait Airlines at £493 return for those under 26 and/or with student cards; or, for travellers of any age, by Air France from £541. Jakarta to Denpasar, Bali, is £182 return by Garuda Airways. STA can arrange direct flights to Denpasar by Garuda for £587; by Air France or KLM for £633 (no age restrictions).

☐ The cost per night at the Four Seasons hotel until Nov 30 is from £170; the Bali Intercontinental, until Dec 31, from £115.

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MOROCCO

IT IS QUIET, total silence broken only by the sighs of a breeze blowing through the eucalyptus trees and the occasional flap of a heron's wings as it leaves one pond to visit another. Bliss, sheer bliss, *writes Mel Webb.*

It is difficult not to be moved by the sheer beauty of the terrain, lush green and peaceful. It could be a film set, it is so close to perfection. Surely the real world is not like this?

Be assured, it is, if you know where to look. And if you are one of the United Kingdom's 2.5 million golfers, there is a bonus — you do not even have to abandon your wife (or husband) and the kids while you indulge your love of the royal and ancient game.

In a deal signed recently, Hyatt, the international hotel operators, have joined forces with Africa's best clubs to offer comprehensive packages that will appeal to golfing fanatics, enthusiastic beginners and reluctant spectators alike.

The Hyatt Regency at Rabat in northern Morocco has forged a link with the famous Royal Dar-es-Salam club to provide a compelling mix of sport, sun, sightseeing and shopping.

The holiday golfer is forever seeking new destinations. The Costa del Sol and the Algarve have long been favourites, but today's been-there, done-it sporting holidaymaker is starting to demand a change, and one, furthermore, that does not involve travelling halfway across the planet. Morocco might provide the solution.

The courses at Dar-es-Salam — there are two 18-hole lay-outs and one of nine holes — were designed by Robert Trent Jones, one of the world's top course designers, in the early 1960s at the behest of the golf-mad King Hassan.

They are at once visually stunning and a challenging test for players of any standard. The cream of Europe's professional golfers have played the Moroccan Open there, and it is the venue for the annual King Hassan III Trophy which draws a powerful entry from both sides of the Atlantic.

Dar-es-Salam: great courses

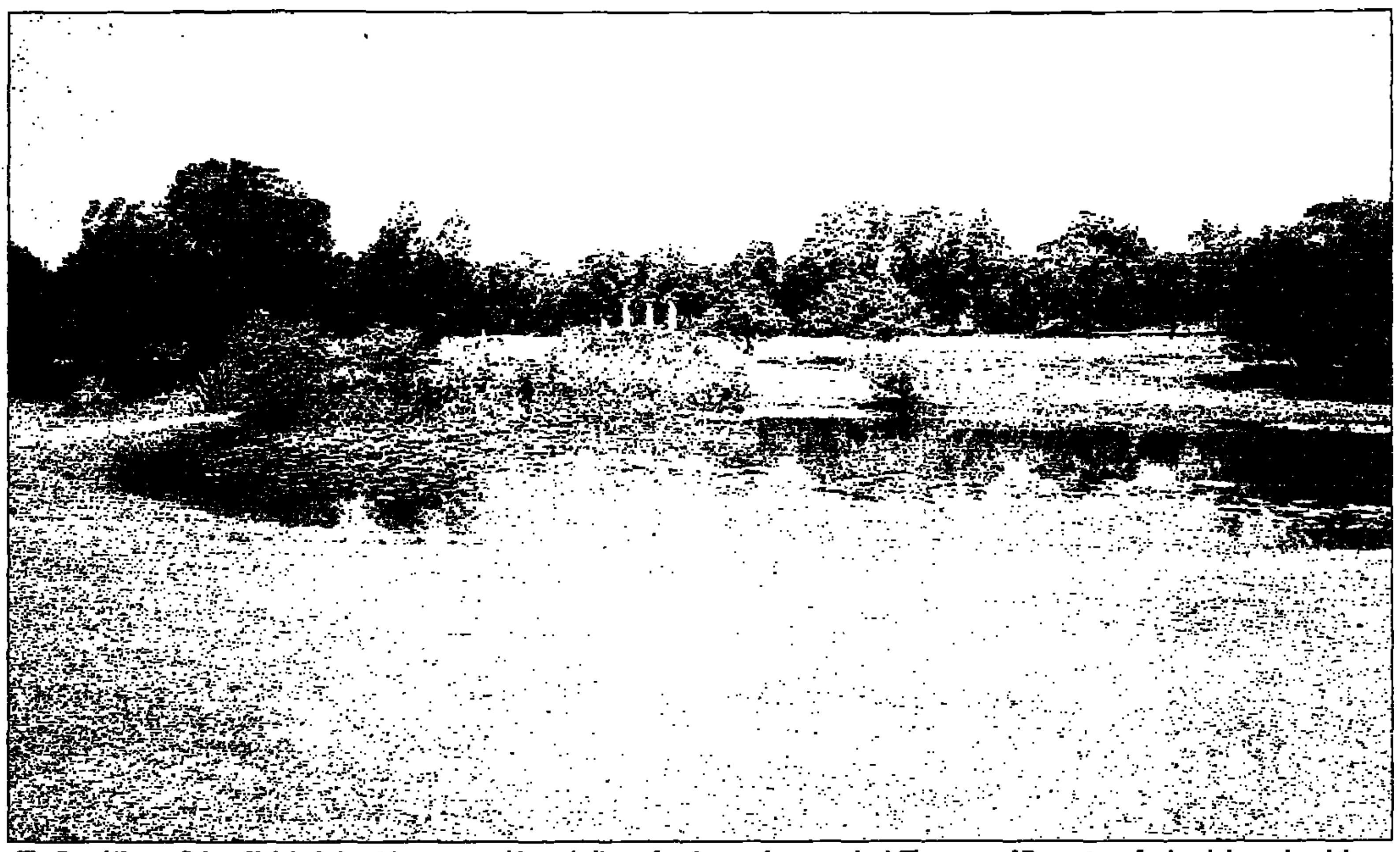
Nobody can claim to have totally mastered the course, but the artful use of alternative teeing grounds makes it possible for the novice to get as much pleasure from playing there as his low-handicap cousin.

The hotel offers a tempting variety of facilities for the golfing widow or widower — swimming pool, boutiques, tennis courts and a health and beauty club as well as three restaurants, including the Andalus, which serves traditional Moroccan fare in waist-expanding portions.

The city itself is an intriguing blend of ancient Arabic and modern French. You can stroll along elegant boulevards window shopping for designer-label extravagances and less than 15 minutes later find yourself in the medina.

The medina and the old market which sits within its walls, is a maze of narrow alleyways where traditional craftsmen offer leather goods and carpets of the highest quality. Haggling is both a sport, an art and an essential part of the buying and selling process here. It is a strange experience, nonetheless. Having spent 15 minutes arguing with a man with a face as old as Africa itself, to end the transaction by finding that your plastic money will do very nicely, thank you.

● *Mel Webb was a guest of the Hyatt Regency (0345 581666) and GB Airways (bookings through British Airways on 081-897 4000). Hyatt, in conjunction with the Royal Dar-es-Salam, offers golf-and-recreation packages, including four-night and seven-night stays. Prices for golfers range from about £356 to £868.*



The Royal Dar-es-Salam Club in Rabat, Morocco, provides a challenge for players of any standard. The cream of Europe's professionals have played there

FRANCE

BY DAY, the Golf Club de Fontcaude shimmers in the Mediterranean haze, *writes Russell Kempson.* Though only about three miles from the centre of Montpellier, amid a bustling backdrop of high-rise flats and business blocks, the beauty of the natural amphitheatre swiftly banishes any inner-city blues. Recline on the club hotel's first-floor balcony, overlooking the wooded 18-hole course, with its tight yet immaculate fairways and slick yet true greens, and succumb to tranquillity.

By night, viewing from the same vantage point, Fontcaude still sparkles. Lights scatter the skyline, the multi-storey apartments now fully occupied; bullfrogs bellow from the third-hole lake, as if locked in mortal combat; the diners below drone on and on, oblivious to the nocturnal feast before them. At Golf Club de Fontcaude, be at peace with the world.

*In the region of Languedoc-*Roussillon, tucked into the southwest corner of France, an hour and a bit's flight from Orly, golfers slap-dash and serious will discover instant magnetism. Courses abound, varying wildly in size, surrounding vegetation and degree of difficulty, and most appear uncluttered. The French have yet to totally unravel the sport's mystical powers.

Fontcaude, apart from its aesthetic appeal, has a par 72 layout on which full concentration makes everything possible. Anything less and misery may set in. So, too, at Golf du Cap d'Agde, just under 40 miles west of Montpellier and a 45-minute shuttle ride from Fontcaude. Ronald Fream's wicked blend of 32 bunkers, five water hazards and an abundance of *garrigue* (a tough, gnarled brush) poses an ever-lurking threat to the happy hacker.

Montpellier-Massane is another tantalising Fream design, where the PGA European Tour stages its annual qualifying school, and will tan the toughest hide. Conquer its undulating fairways and rejoice; if failure is your lot retreat to the on-site academy of David Leadbetter (teaching guru to Nick Faldo *et al*) to cleanse the soul.

Golf de Saint Cyprian, ten miles southwest of Perpignan, offers a flatter, fairer test, while the enchanting 42-hole resort inspired by Robert Trent Jones Sr at La Grand Motte, near Montpellier, *snakes around mile upon nau*tical mile of water. Not one for the aquaphobic.

Travel northeast to Nimes, *where Golf de Nimes-Vacque*rolles gives both beginner and expert a sporting chance. Novices, though, should decline the lure of Nimes-Campagne, while low handicappers accept only at considerable peril. Assuming entry has been negotiated to tread the immaculately manicured turf — the exclusive nature of the club does not encourage such trivialities as green fees — dense blue Cyprus and Leylandii constantly await the errant drive.

● *Russell Kempson was a guest of Maison de la France (0891 244123, calls charged at 50p a minute, 40p off-peak) and Air France (081-742 6600). Seven-day package at Golf Hotel de Fontcaude (010 33 67 03 34 101, including breakfast, lunch/dinner and seven green fees for Fontcaude and Cap d'Agde courses, from £362 per person.*

PORTUGAL

THE GUIDEBOOKS call it a golfer's paradise and you can see why. At the eastern end of the Algarve there are nine golf courses strung out along the beautiful coastline, *writes Stuart Maclure*. Among them, Quinta da Lago, home to the Portuguese Open Championship seven times, is 20 minutes from Faro airport, and near by are Pinheiros Altos and San Lorenzo, with Vilasol, the Val de Lobo and Vilamoura courses just down the road.

The Quinta da Lago estate is the jewel in the crown. There are strict curbs on how it can be developed and only 8 per cent of the area *may* be used for building. The area includes the Rio Formosa nature reserve and you must not *mind if hoopoe or purple* gallinule flit across your line of sight when you're putting. Along with the golf goes the superb five-star Quinta da Lago Hotel, which belongs to the Orient Express group.

During summer, it is comfortable to play only early in the morning or late in the afternoon because of the heat. October to March is when the golfers are out in force, and the courses get crowded. This is the only snag. There are strict starting times but a round can take four and a half to five hours.

Players are meant to produce a handicap certificate but a lot of Germans arrive with no handicap but a "certificate of competence" from a golf teacher, which means little or nothing.

The courses are beautifully landscaped with umbrella pines and plenty of water. The influence of American golf architects is growing fast. Vilasol, where last year's Portuguese Open was held, is an outstanding course with some memorable holes, such as the long, par 5 sixth and the short seventh, both of which require shots across water to well-guarded greens. The fairways are sown with Bermuda grass and the greens with pencross.

The resort lives and dies for golf, but anyone staying at the Quinta da Lago Hotel would also have a choice of swimming pools and tennis, birdwatching and walks in the nature reserve, and a long sandy beach. There are excellent restaurants to choose from; try Gigi's on the beach for fish. Many packages include a car, and you would certainly want one. Seville is only two hours away.

● *Stuart Maclure was a guest of the Hotel Quinta da Lago (Orient-Express Hotels, 081-568 8366) and British Airways Holidays (0293 611311), which offer seven nights B&B at the hotel from £799 per person sharing a twin room, including golf and car. For independent travellers, the hotel offers four nights for about £440 and seven nights for about £805, both including golf and car hire.*

WORD WATCHING

Answers from page *31*

BROSIER
(b) To be bankrupt, or transitive, to make bankrupt. Etymology unknown. In Eton College slang: to attempt to exhaust the supply of food at a meal, as an expression of dissatisfaction with the fare, especially in the phrase *to brosier my dame* or *my tutor*: "I joined a conspiracy to brosier him. There were ten or twelve of us at breakfast, and we devoured everything within reach."

CULCHING
(c) The practice of strewing an oyster-bed with culch, also attributive. "The process known as culching, that is, scattering the floor of the bed with rock, loose coral, and so on, to afford the necessary anchorage for the byssus of the young oyster."

AMBIENS
(a) A muscle in the thigh of certain birds, so called from the way in which it winds in passing from the hip to the foot, from the present participle of the Latin *ambire* to go round, surround.

GOOG
(b) An egg. Australian slang. *full of goog* means "drunk", origin unknown, but it sounds round.

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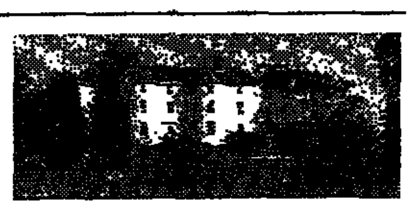

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SCOTLAND: Explore the scenic West Highland Line, one of the Great Railway Journeys of the World, and

Going loco in the Highlands

For a country that pioneered the Railway Age, Britain is remarkably short of great rail journeys. The exception is the West Highland Line, a spectacular route from Glasgow to the Western Isles, 100 years old this year and one of the Great Railway Journeys of the World.

The West Highland Line is not very long. It is only 164 miles from Glasgow to Mallaig and the journey need take no more than five-and-a-half hours. What qualifies it for inclusion in the list of great rail journeys is the splendour of the scenery, the complexity of the construction and some of the curious customs that have grown up along the route. Thanks to all these, a trip on the West Highland Line is much more than a journey; it's an experience, a chance to relive the great days of travel.

The West Highland Line was opened in two stages, from Glasgow to Fort William in 1894 and from Fort William to Mallaig in 1901. It was built to serve the herring fishing trade but from the start it attracted walkers, sportsmen and travellers to the Western Isles. These, with a great number of tourists, keep it thriving when many lines are threatened with closure.

The first attraction is the scenery. The line runs from Glasgow beside the Clyde to Gare Loch, Loch Long and Loch Lomond. Then it heads into the mountains, climbing past Ben Vorlich and through Glen Falloch to the junction at Crianlarich where a spur runs off west to the port of Oban, the gateway to Mull and Iona. The main line heads north along the glen to Tyndrum and round the Horseshoe Curve to the Bridge of Orchy and then across Rannoch Moor to Rannoch station, surely the most remote railway station in Britain.

On it goes, over rivers and burns, past blue lochs and heather-cloaked mountains into Lochaber, to Spean Bridge and Fort William, the halt for Ben Nevis and Glen Coe. Leaving Fort William the train heads west, past Loch Eil and over the great viaduct at Glenfinnan, the place where Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard to call out the clans for the rebellion of 1745. On then to Borrodale and Arisaig, with the islands of Eigg and Rhum and Skye in view against the Atlantic and so at last to Mallaig.

Forcing the line across the Western Highlands 100 years ago was a great saga. Nothing existed to ease the passage of materials or sustain the workforce of 3,000 navvies, plagued in summer by midges and in winter by foul weather. The great obstacle on the first section was Rannoch Moor, 20 square miles of wilderness where the line had to be supported across the bogs on a mattress of brushwood, which survives. The main contractor was Robert MacAlpine, who pioneered the use of the new wonder material, concrete, and earned himself the nickname "Concrete Bob".

MacAlpine's masterpiece was the curving, 100ft-high, 21-arch concrete viaduct at Glenfinnan, offering great views from the train to the Glenfinnan Monument and Loch Shiel. Further west stands the Borrodale Viaduct, in its day the largest single-span concrete bridge in the world. The Glen Falloch viaduct over the Black Water Gorge beyond Ardlui is the highest in the country, but the entire line is an engineering marvel.

To carry the track across the rivers, bogs and burns, the workforce built 32 stations, 12 tunnels and 617 bridges. Building the first stage to Fort William took four hard years.

On August 11, 1894, the chairman of the West Highland and North British Railway Company, Lord Tweeddale, led the first passengers from Glasgow to Fort William. The party was met by the sound of pipes and a host of Highlanders led by their chief, the Cameron of Locheil.

The West Highland Line is now owned and operated by Scotrail, which operates it in a way that adds little touches of charm to an always delightful journey. Many of the stations are unmanned: the way to stop the train is to simply hold out your hand. To get off, you tell the guard of your destination when buying your ticket.

Such stations are not deserted. The platform buffet at Crianlarich was one of the first to open in 1894, offering breakfasts and lunch baskets to passengers on the train; it is now a family-run tearoom, usually full of walkers and climbers waiting for a train or pausing on a walk along the West Highland Way. It is the ideal place to lurk on a wet afternoon. The road to the Isles can be picked up by the station at Corrour and the West Highland Way flanks the line for much of the way north from Crianlarich to beyond Glen Coe.

Glenfinnan now has the Station Museum, a working station with railway exhibits, the story of the line's construction and self-catering accommodation. Spean Bridge has the Commando Museum and is a short walk from the Commando Memorial facing Ben Nevis and the hills where the commandos trained in the last war. History, ancient and modern, lies on and around the West Highland Line.

A Happy 100th Birthday to the West Highland Line and many more to come.

ROBIN NEILLANDS

Travel details

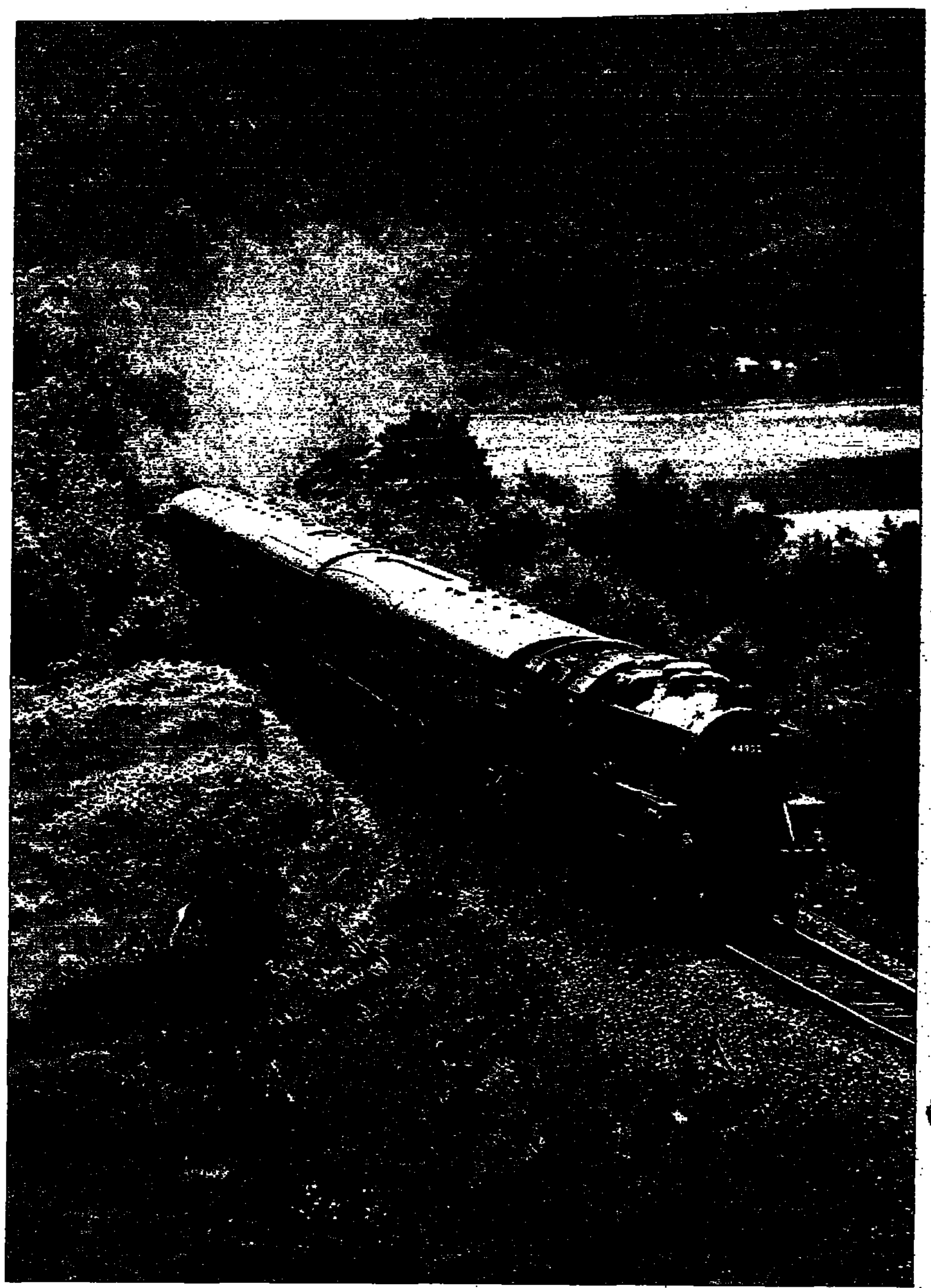
☐ From Nov 1-30, Scotrail is offering a day-return ticket from Glasgow to Oban or Fort William for £5. Normal fares are: Oban-Glasgow, single £15.50, return £27; Fort William-Glasgow, £20, return £27; Mallaig-Glasgow, £25.30, return £32.

☐ West Highland Line trains leave Glasgow Queen Street Mon-Sat at 8.12am, 12.42pm and 6.12pm. The four-coach train splits at Crianlarich, with two coaches going to Fort William and Mallaig and two to Oban. Arrivals at Mallaig are at 1.25pm, 5.47pm and 11.30pm; Oban 11.10am, 3.37pm and 9.15pm. Departures from Oban are at 8.05am, 12.35pm and 6.08pm; Mallaig, 6am, 10.30am and 4.10pm. On Sundays, only the last-timed trains run in each direction.

☐ For further details call Scotrail on 041-335 4107.

☐ Information on the West Highland Line can also be obtained from any British mainline station, or Fort William and Lochaber Tourism, Cameron Centre, Cameron Square, Fort William (0397 703781). The centre can also supply details of steam-train journeys between Fort William and Mallaig.

☐ A new paperback, *The West Highland Line* (Case Publications, £1.90), tells the story of the line and suggests walks and sights to see from the stations. The line is included and illustrated in *Train Journeys of the World* (AA, £16.99). Robin Neillands's book, *Walking Through Scotland*, will be published next spring by Little, Brown.



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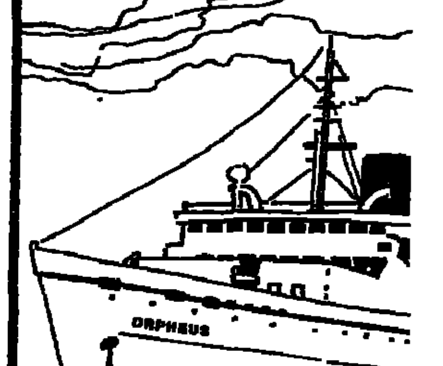

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ATOL 0307

... London to Edinburgh on the luxurious *Royal Scotsman*; plus the final part of our guide to ski resorts

Slip into something more comfortable

THE STANDARD rail fare from London to Edinburgh is about £60, so it was *startling* to hear that on this train it costs £1,150 — and the journey takes 45 hours. The train in question was the *Royal Scotsman*, a variation of the *Orient Express* school of locomotion, which has been trundling round Scotland in style for the past decade and this year started a *regular*, scheduled service between London and Edinburgh.

This is the only train that leaves for Scotland from Paddington (sometimes from Victoria) and it takes what can only be described as the scenic route. So, as we walked along the red carpet laid on Platform 8, a piper playing us aboard and a smiling staff handing out glasses of champagne, the obvious question came to mind. Would the journey be worth that sort of money?

What would its passengers — most of them Americans — think of so costly a view of countryside the natives take for granted? I have travelled on the *Orient Express* through the Alps and across the plain of the Veneto and recall how delightfully the extravagance of the scenery matched that of the train. But this would be our own back yard.

Comparisons would be inevitable. *One advantage of the Royal Scotsman* was soon apparent. The *Orient Express*, which charges £895 for the trip from London to Venice with one night on the train, offers gloriously antique sleeping compartments with wash-basins but no showers, and the lavatory is at the end of the corridor. This train has only "staterooms" with beds, wardrobe and dressing-table and tiny bathroom for a minimum of two nights aboard.

The bar car of the *Orient Express* can get overcrowded if the maximum 180 passengers are embarked but on this train *there is a maximum of 32* passengers and places for each in the observation car.

The *Orient Express* has a choice of dishes on the menu and drinks are charged separately. On the *Royal Scotsman* there is no choice, except by prior arrangement, but all drinks are included in the price. On both trains, the staff are young, friendly and enthusiastic about their work.

The food on both trains is exceptional. On this journey, there was, for a start, smoked salmon and caviar while sliding through Southall; later the cooking was *Haut Ecossais*: scallops, pigeon breasts, sole *en croute*, and strawberries with peppercorns.

Soon the Thames Valley was sliding past in all its fine greenery. The Oxford skyline did not disappoint and then there was Warwick, where the train's own bus awaited, as it was to materialise wherever the train stopped, having pounded up the motorways to meet us. From here it took us to Charlcote Park, the National Trust mansion with the park where Shakespeare was caught poaching.

Arriving just as the last of the tourists were leaving, we were met by Michael Pickard, whose easy, hospitable manner, expertise in opening champagne and discussing the breeds of deer and rare sheep in the park, suggested that he was the squire rather than the administrator. We stood on the terrace gazing across the park, champagne in hand, pretending to be in a Merchant Ivory movie.

Breakfast (porridge, scrambled eggs or smoked salmon and scones) was on the move northeast. Rural greenery gave way to the suburbs of Birmingham, but the Pennines, shouldering out of the treetops, made up for this. There was a halt near Leeds for an excursion to Harewood House, and then it was on to Garsdale, just in time to see a real steam locomotive, the *Princess Margaret*, come puffing over the viaduct hauling an excursion train. Finally, the Yorkshire dales, the Cumbrian mountains, the Southern Uplands of Scotland and the distant Trossachs demonstrated that the Highlands do not need snow-capped peaks for magnificence.

The second night was passed alongside a platform at Perth station and here passengers were advised against late-night strolls in the town. Next morning, passengers were to be dropped at Gleneagles on *our way to Edinburgh, from* where the train begins a five-day tour of Scotland.

Was it worth the price? One passenger, an elderly English widow, remarked *that she had* to choose between the London-to-London grand tour by train and three weeks in New Zealand for the same price. She had chosen the train and did not regret it.

It was less exotic than the Orient Express, but rather more comfortable. The view from the *Royal Scotsman* was like seeing familiar scenes through other, fresher, more impressionable eyes. It was a *surprising and* agreeable sensation to — dare it be said? — feel so proud of the looks of one's country.

TOM POCOCK

Fact file

- The author was a guest on the *Royal Scotsman*.
- Tours continue until the end of November: two-night London to Edinburgh tour or vice versa £1,150; four-night tour of Scotland £2,200 or *the two combined* £2,950. There will then be two-night autumn tours to Hereford and Somerset £950. Christmas and New Year tours will visit Bath, York and Edinburgh (for Hogmanay).
- From early April 1995: London to Edinburgh £1,200; Scottish tour £2,300; and the combination £3,100.
- Information and reservations: The Great Scottish And Western Railway Company, Stationmaster's House, Windsor Central Station, Thames Street, Windsor, SL4 1PJ (0753 833377).

Quality, not quantity

Views on the quality of Scottish skiing can be divided, like the Scottish climate, into extremes. Were you blinded by an arctic wind howling across the Cairngorm plateau, one of the bleakest and most hazardous mountain areas in Britain, or were the ski runs slopes of crisp, well groomed snow, the wind calm and the sun brilliant? Winter in the Highland latitudes may produce both conditions within hours. I have known one day of superb skiing to be followed by a day when the mountainside was stripped down to rocks and heather by an overnight storm and other days when the snow has been so thick and deep on the slopes that the approach roads were impassable.

Nature plays havoc with the Scottish winter climate and, presumably, with the nerves of those running the five Scottish ski resorts.

So why go to Scotland to ski when alpine resorts have longer runs, more mountainous mountains and a wider choice? The fact is that Scotland does not compete directly with the long-established continental ski resorts. The centres of Cairngorm, Glen Coe, Glenshee, the Lecht and Nevis Range attract their own clientele largely from central Scotland and the north of England with an excellent network of lifts, ski schools and instructors and a strong belief that they are an option on the international ski scene in terms of quality if not size.

Shelagh Ferguson of the Cairngorm ski area near Aviemore in the Spey valley *says a major advantage of* skiing in Scotland is the potential for a winter holiday as opposed to a purely skiing holiday. "Many of our customers *travel by car and therefore* as independent holidaymakers can choose a different ski area or a different activity each day. Many aspects of a holiday in Scotland, from ski passes to cups of coffee, are significantly cheaper than in the Alps and the fact that instructors speak the same language is especially helpful for teaching children."

Skiing earns more than £24 million a year for Scotland and is a vital ingredient in the tourist industry. Skiers extend the season and hundreds of thousands of visitors are attracted to areas that otherwise *would be empty at a time of* year when a trip to the far north would not be an obvious choice for a long weekend. On Cairngorm numbers vary from season to season, according to the weather. The 1991-92 "green winter" saw only 65,000 skier days because of the lack of snow, whilst 1987-88 broke all records with 391,000 skier days. Last season saw some of the heaviest snowfalls since records began, but the accompanying storms held down the number of skiers. The ski season usually runs from December to May and there has never been a completely snowless winter. One year skiing was available on Cairngorm from October 18 and this year the last skier left the slopes on June 1.

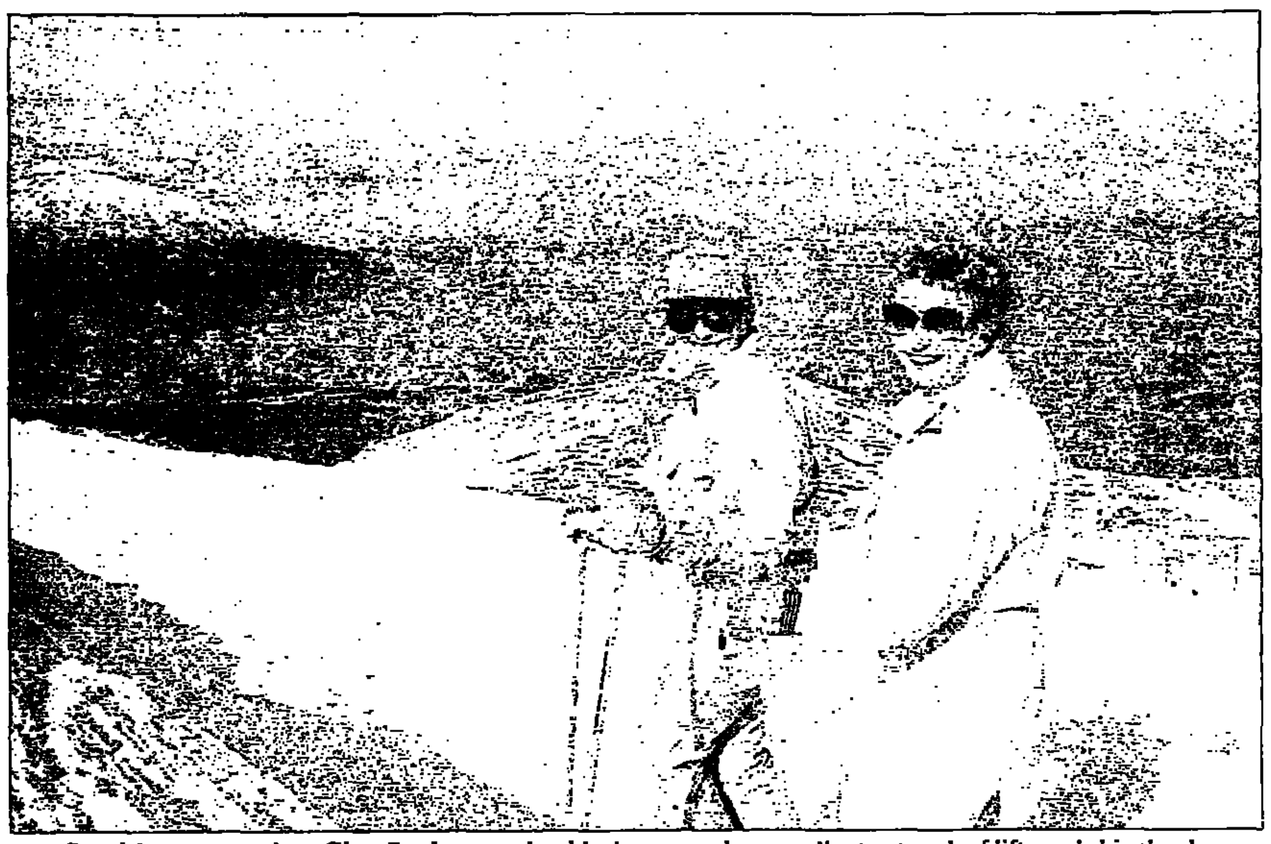
Cally Fleming of Nevis Range, Scotland's newest ski centre above Fort William, *says Scotland's attractions in*clude: Highland hospitality, cheaper extras, a high standard of instruction and dedication from instructors and freedom from hassle over passports and changing money. Special winter sports insurance is not required since the cost of any immediate first aid and mountain rescue is included in the price of a lift pass, after which the National Health service takes over.

"Obviously no resort can guarantee that there will be snow but if there is a shortage Glenshee has good facilities for making snow artificially. *The Lecht has large dry ski* slopes and there are artificial slopes at Nevis Range and at Aviemore below Cairngorm in the Spey valley. But even when the lower areas have little or no cover, there is often snow on the higher ground and *skiing is possible at one or two* of the centres even when conditions are poor," she says.

Although continental alternatives may be more easily *available to ski enthusiasts in* the south, Scotland is proving increasingly attractive to long-stay visitors, especially families. Keen southern skiers *should not dismiss Scotland as* unworthy of comparison with the Alps.

The black runs of Glenshee and Glen Coe are testing and there is enough variety and choice of lifts at any of the five resorts to provide a satisfying day's exercise. Away from the groomed pistes Scotland also offers excellent opportunities for cross-country and Nordic skiing.

RONALD FAUX


Scottish resorts such as Glen Coe have testing black runs and an excellent network of lifts and ski schools

Skiing resorts in Scotland

- Cairngorm: 17 chairlifts and ski tows between the Ptarmigan at 3,600ft and Coire na Ciste at 1,800ft. Aviemore is near by. Good intermediate-standard skiing. A five-day package including lift pass, tuition and ski hire costs on average £135. *Accommodation: B&B for £15 to £20 a night.*
- Glenshee: 26 lifts and tows and a snow cannon. Maximum vertical descent is 1,500ft and the lift system can handle 18,500 skiers an hour. A five-day package including ski pass, ski hire and tuition is around £150. Accommodation: £20 to £25 a night.
- *Glen Coe: Only 90 minutes from Glasgow*, some 2,600ft of vertical descent from Meall a' Bhuiridh provides challenging skiing. Six chairlifts and tows give access to a variety of runs. Accommodation is less plentiful but the King's House Hotel is close by with the Clachaig Inn a moderate drive away. Instruction and ski hire from the Glen Coe Ski School £59 for a five-day mid-week package.
- Nevis Range: On the slopes of Aonach Mór (4,006ft) with 1,900 feet of vertical descent, eight chairlifts and tows and an access gondola. Accommodation in nearby Fort William costs £20 to £45 a night. Instruction, equipment hire and lift pass cost around £120 for a five-day package.
- The Lecht: Between Cock Bridge and Tomintoul. Eleven lifts and tows can carry 8,500 skiers an hour. The maximum vertical drop is a relatively modest 700ft, but mid-range skiing is excellent. Accommodation in Tomintoul, Braemar and Grantown-on-Spey for £15-£25 a night (B&B). Five-day ski hire, tuition and pass package is £75.
- The Scottish Tourist Board (031-332 2433) produces a *Ski Scotland* brochure, now available from most travel agents.

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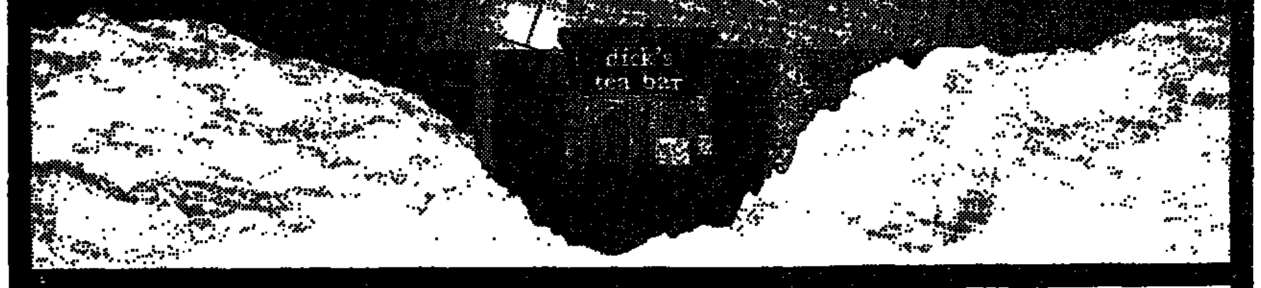

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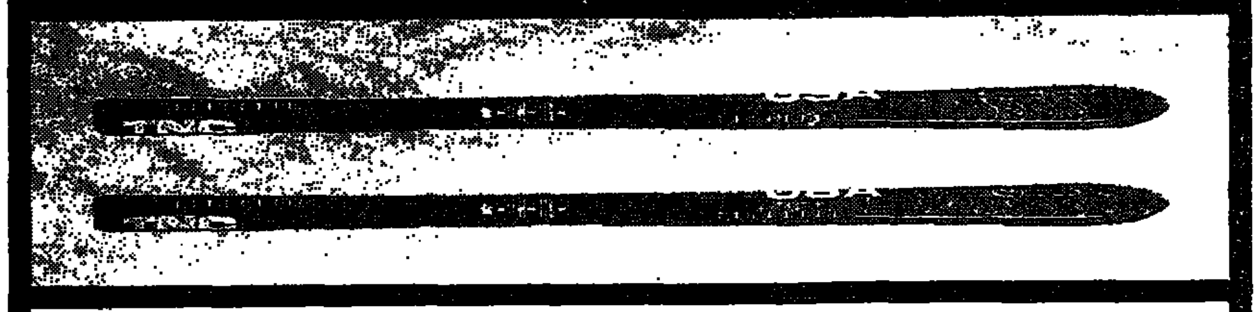

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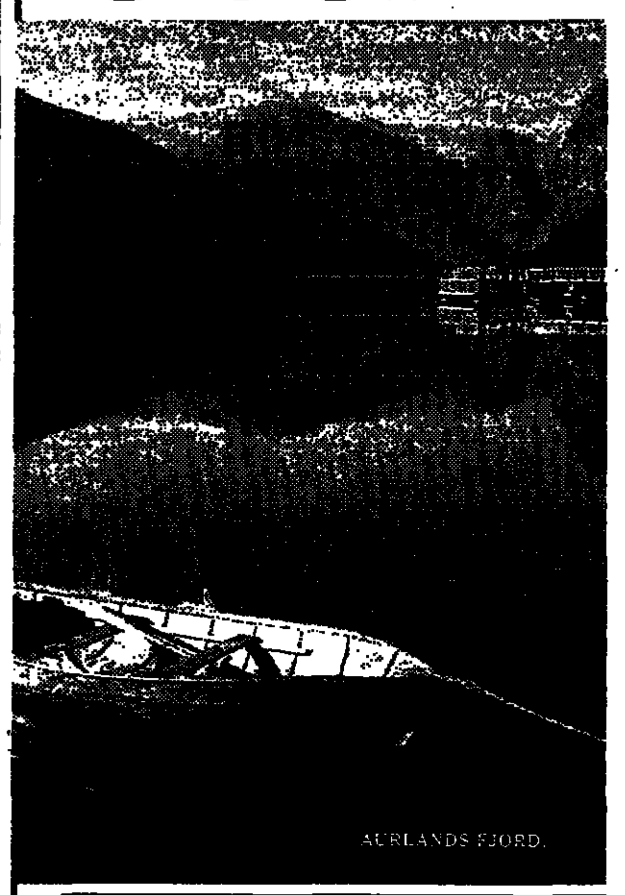

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هكذا صنع الأصل

LADIES

ABSOLUTELY [illegible] Reply to Box No 1473

ABSOLUTELY [illegible] Reply with photo to Box No 1463

AGE? this USA prof woman, 47. Warm based, needs help. Since moving to the UK all my time has been spent in the office. I want to play, ride bikes, entertain, drink fine wine, flirt, laugh, and be courted. If you can put up with an American personality and a sick sense of humour please respond. Please Reply to Box No 1466

ADVENTUROUS, sensuous, independent lady, GSOH, late 40s, seeks similar man to share active fun times and cosy quiet times. Herts, Beds, Bucks. Please Reply to Box No 1464

ALL the As - attractive, academic, affectionate, articulate, amusing, amiable, and alone agnostic Agnostic Jewess, seeking compatible 50ish companion. Reply to Box No 1364

ATTRACTIVE, tall blonde, slim, feminine Cheshire lady. Widowed. Warm, caring, tactile, happy, outgoing. Sporty, plays tennis, golf. Seeks kind, sensitive, confident, successful prof male 47-60, emotionally available, unattached, to share interests, travel and possible long-term relationship. Photo appreciated.Reply Box No 0362

ATTRACTIVE plump, n/s, 45, qualified cook & businesswoman, about to have 16th Cent. home repossessed. Seeks solvent, caring man to restart her life with. Loves include animals, country living, house renovation, music & red wine! Please Reply to Box No 1371

ATTRACTIVE professional tall lady 30's with successful fashion business living and working on South coast. Very varied interests incl. theatre opera good food and sport. Would be very interested to hear from like-minded gentleman 40's-50's.Reply Box 1441

ATTRACTIVE, slender, gentle, divorced, female graduate (53) - seeks kind, sensitive, intelligent, slim, emotionally-available soulmate - to share the search for life, love and happiness. Photo helpful. West Country/ Anywhere. Reply Box No 1448

ATTRACTIVE lady 30, bright, loving, slim + sensuous, passion for countryside, animals, homemaking + design, seeks solvent, sensitive, n/s, fun gentleman, for love & commitment Sth London/Surrey/W Sussex. Box No 1546

ATTRACTIVE professional female seeks tallish handsome well-educated male. Must be animal and countryside lover with GSOH. Kind, honest and genuine, 30-38ish. Letter and photo please. Reply to Box 1429

ATTRACTIVE slim warm educated well-dressed woman n/s seeks intelligent sensitive man up to 65yrs to share wide interests laughter and life. Oxford/West. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 1508

ATTRACTIVE warm lady 35 sincere outgoing with lively SOH. Enjoys sport cinema horse-racing food + wine. Middlesex based. WLTM humorous intelligent gentleman who also enjoys life. Photo to Box 1485

ATTRACTIVE slim intelligent lady (41) wide interests seeks genuine caring gentleman with VGSOH Cheshire/Gtr M/C Please Reply to Box No 1480

BRIGHT, sparkly woman, attractive, stylish, with creative job, London based. Seeks nice, erudite, interesting man, approx mid 40's to share serious plays, funny films, bags of books, & the tragi-comedy of life. Photo app.Reply to Box No 1442

BUBBLY Blonde, Gemini, 40's, full figure, 5'6" GSOH. Glamorous, creative, continental, solvent. London/Surrey. WLTM: Prof successful man. GSOH. 45-60. Reply to Box No 1253

CALLING West Midlands Gentleman - older professional woman, widow, solvent, no ties, N/S; at present living/working Central London, moving to W.Midlands for professional reasons, would like to meet active, fit, well educated gentleman, initially for friendship, and to get to know the area. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box·No 1343

CAROLINE [illegible] stunning [illegible] Anglo- [illegible] very [illegible] abroad [illegible] creative [illegible] around 40. [illegible] Box No 1454

CHALLENGING, sophisticated, [illegible] funny, [illegible] blonde [illegible] Photo a [illegible] London. Reply to Box No 1298

CHARISMATIC cuddly attractive 50's Comp. Health Prof. Likes cooking the arts travel seeks aware open-minded n/s warm man 49-60 interested in mind body & spirit. London. Box No 1497

COME on now! Somewhere in London there must be an attractive, intelligent, solvent male in his 40's/50's looking for some love and affection from an attractive, sensual, tactile woman with no ties. So where are you? Reply Box No 1477

COULD there be a man out there who would like to meet an elegant, attractive, well travelled, successful, London based businesswoman in her early forties. If so, please reply. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 1321

COUNTRY-LOVING Cotswolds S.W. widow young mid 50's petite vivacious & attractive educated warm & sincere. Enjoys beautiful music, walking, log fires, golf, travel, dogs and much more. Seeks likewise male companion to share imminent hibernation! GSOH n/s preferred. Photo if poss.Reply Box No 1444

CURVY Capricorn divorcee (50's), no ties, seeks a loving partner to make her eyes sparkle again. He will be late 50's/60's (retired?), uncomplicated and outgoing with a zest for life, and like me will list travel amongst his interests. I am in the midlands: He could be anywhere. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 1317

DESIRED by unconventional c.50's music-loving dinghy-sailing Dorset widow, honest imaginative intelligent male with pezazz 50-57. Box 1391

DOCTOR'S divorcee, very attractive, young 50, cultured, elegant, no ties, 5'8", slim, N/S, professional . GSOH, own house. Seeks gentleman for happy future. Oxford/ anywhere. Box No 1390

ENGLISH ROSE exciting, interesting, fun, South Bucks, business lady, 55 WLTM a caring, honest, successful, professional man to share business interests, travel, good food, music, gardens and most of all a warm friendship. Reply Box No 1314

FORMERLY an American in Paris. London based. Tall, elegant, 40ish with an eye for the arts and an ear for conversation. Seeks intelligent, 50 something male, with humour and sophistication. Reply to Box No 1425

GENTLEMEN, 45 - 55 unpretentious, liberal minded, well travelled required for one of our clients, aged 46 5ft 2ins, slim, attractive, well travelled and self sufficient. Applicant must enjoy walking, skiing and be ecologically minded. Call Two's Company for more details on 071 409 0102.

GENUINELY attractive slim lady, 53, n/s, London based, works in media, likes fashion, cinema, wining/dining, countryside, seeks similar handsome guy for romance Photo ess Box 1457

HANTS. Sensitive country loving attractive musician (40's) WLTM unattached intelligent man for companionship initially. GSOH ess.Box No 1582

HIGH Quality unattached male 38-44 sought by high quality young 43 blonde lady 5'10" GSOH enjoys theatre, dining in/out, family life, travel - SW. Photo please. Box No 1399

INTERESTED in visiting exciting events/places in groups 4/6? Suggestions welcome! From W.London/Thames Valley? 38+, Sociable and solvent? Write with some background. Box No 1565

IS there ... could there be... a man somewhere - a match for this independent, talented, lively, gloriously attractive, fifty-ish real woman? Wonderful if you live in London. Please Reply to Box No 1418

IS there a man living in East Kent who will befriend professional woman (51, tall slim and good looking) who needs to be persuaded that there is more to life than work? Reply Box No 1541

JUST a nice, unpretentious, unmaterialistic, caring, happy lady based in Glos. Have reasonable life style + looks + many interests. WLTM loving man (50's) with humour and compassion. Locally based if possible. Reply to Box No 1467

KATHARINE ALLEN. "The highly respected marriage bureaux" (The Independent). 18 Thayer St, London W1M 5LD. Tel: 071-935 3115

LADIES GALORE Attractive, thinking, funloving, pub sch. 30's are coming to my party but not enough chaps. Are there a few more really nice, pub sch, prof men, under 45 (with all their hair) living within 30 mins drive of W London reading this? Tel: Patricia 081 392 9009.

LAMBO? Jag? Bentley Continental? Big house and seriously into "networking"? If so, target it - you must be my end! Been there, done that and thought it AB FAB - (not!). I'm unpretentious, but solvent, intelligent but not academic (no 'dreaming spires' but the 'University of the Bottom Line' has served me well) attractive but not beautiful, bubbly but not raucous, wicked sense of humour - not in the least politically correct. Sexy but not kinky, adventurous but not imprudent. I'm fiercely independent, but a kindred spirit would lend moral support. My boys (18 & 7) are my passion (cricket & diet) and I love family life, but I'm still a person - so travel, fun and exciting new things minus kids are great. I am a positive and happy person - but something is missing - could it be snuggles, cuddles, the discussion of the mundane plus the passionate etc....? Incidentally, I'm 30 several and live in Warwickshire. Is there anybody out there who can relate to the above (& isn't yet in therapy for being schizo)? If so, write, and make me laugh. Please enclose photo, as I am a hopeless romantic. If you look like Baldrick you're not for me (unless you can persuade me otherwise!) Byyyye.Box 1524

LEEDS based cosmopolitan (young 51) divorcee loves the arts WLTM a tall cultured well-ed./spoken successful businessman 45-59 with view to permanent relationship. Photo app.Reply Box No 1431

LONDON And South East will find me! Slim and Blue eyed, fashionable, continental, intelligent. Desires should be my name! You are tall, educated, fun, attractive and as solvent as myself. 46-58 Photo Essential Please Reply to Box No 1408

LOOKING for laughter and companionship, attractive Surrey lady of 61. Interests dining, dancing, drama & travel. Please send recent photo. Please Reply to Box No 1576

LOT 100 Creative female journalist (height 5'7", executed 1966, made in Japan). ESTIMATE: successful male aesthete with style to share finer things in life with. Your bid with photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 1434

LOVELY gentle lady. Sussex, attractive, forties, beautiful home, seeks tall(ish) caring, successful man for friendship and whatever. Please Reply with photo to Box No 1380

MEET attractive, sexy women at London Singles' parties. Call MEET 'N' EAT 071 629 5534

MR RIGHT - I know you're out there, how can we meet if you don't write? Warm, gentle, Caucasian lady 5'8", solvent, attractive, seeks NS soulmate 50-60 to share winter evenings. London SE. Box No 1385

NORTHANTS: Attractive, 34 blue eyes, WLTM caring, genuine prof male 32-40 to share looming Autumn evenings. Photo please. Box No 1449

ONCE upon a time a beautiful lady woke up to find a wicked witch had taken her husband, home, car, and all her clothes. She was left with 2 lovely children now 10 & 11. All of a sudden she was lost in the deep mist of the High Court, by the time the mist lifted she found herself 4 yrs older (41). Could you help her live happily ever after? N.West based. Please Reply to Box No 1489

PRETTY blonde teacher, 45, intelligent, well travelled, warm, caring, sensual, seeks prof man for lasting relationship Reply with photo box 1366

PROF. HIGGINS wanted to help this vivacious Ms DOOLITTLE speak proper English. London/Surrey. Please Reply to Box No 1515

PROFESSIONAL lady widow 50 attractive slim 5'4" seeks gentleman for friendship must have GSOH 5'10" or over. Enjoys dancing theatre swimming and walking. Surrey based. Please Reply to Box No 1546

PROFESSIONAL gentlemen (aged 40-55) wanted to join several like-minded ladies for a pre-Christmas party evening at a Warwickshire venue. Please Reply to Box No 1428

S. BUCKS widow 56 seeks humorous kind n/s man of integrity to enhance her joie de vivre.Reply to Box No 1450

SENSUOUS blonde (Cheshire) feels the best has yet to come seeks like-minded male 55+ any area. All replies answered. Please Reply to Box No 1417

SHAPELY Blonde, attractive and intelligent seeks down to earth businessman for occasional wining /dining. Scotland. Box No 1240

SICK of doing it on my own. High time to share with him and him to share with me. Are you a match for intelligent, chaotic, creative highly independent pretty young granny? Please Reply to Box No 1419

SLIM attractive lady would like to share classical music evenings and beautiful Autumn walks with cultured gentleman 55 plus Bedfordshire. Please Reply to Box No 1488

SLIM blond prof. woman mid 30's 5'2" sophisticated and down to earth GSOH varied interests. Surrey/Hants. WLTM unattached intelligent attractive man 32-40ish for good evenings and friendship. Photo please.Reply Box 1491

SOMEONE to watch over me. Surrey lady 43. Businesswoman, considered attractive, longs for a caring, loving man to bring fun and meaning back into her life. Please reply with photo to Box No 1472

1ST time advertiser. I'm told this works. Optimistic, tall, London blonde, 39, baggage free, wants warm caring, sharing man to warm care and share with. Photo ess. Reply Box No 1533

SURREY widow, 60's 5'2". Lively: n/s - swimming, walking holidays, music, theatre etc. Seeks widower similar age for company. Reply Box No 1377

TALL, active, retired widow would like to meet practical gentleman with sense of humour residing in Oxfordshire or Berkshire for occasional outings. Interests gardening, walking, wildlife, rugby, cricket, crafts, entertaining: all replies answered. Box No 1551

TALL, intelligent, music loving, Public school, City chap/lawyer (48-60), n/s, living London, sought by elegant widow, similar attributes, to enhance enjoyment of opera, classical concerts, theatre and maybe skiing/travel. Please Reply to Box No 1574

TALL, slender, naturally elegant widow (London home) amiable and kind seeks authentic companion about 60-69 years with whom to attend delayed bonfire party Nov. 12th. Very recent photograph available. hopefully reciprocated. Reply to Box No 1400

TALL, sensuous, loyal beauty, 34, enjoys health/fitness, simple pleasures also luxuries! Seeks love with unconventional, rugged, wealthy man. photo please. Box No 1396

TANNED fit looking woman 41yrs old with a very young outlook and appearance wishes to meet a guy of similar age who is a romantic and likes music for friendship and fun together.Reply to Box No 1438

TWO for the price of one (stunning). Between us we have everything a man could want. Tall sexy sophisticated Joanna Lumley type or small petite sensual and mysterious. We are looking for two solvent freespirited good looking men aged 35 -50 who want to spoil pamper and love us in return for similar. London/SE. Photo + phone No to Box No 1478

VERSATILE woman needs congenial man 40+. London based but free to travel and move. Wide interests include cooking, gardening, home making, and the arts. Generally considered bright (Mensa Member), generous and hospitable. Just 40 but looks/feels younger. Please Reply to Box No 1468

VERY attractive Bristol based professional lady seeks intelligent ambitious dynamic businessman/academic 5'11"+ unattached 38-46yrs - to make my heart beat faster. Please Reply to Box No 1498

VERY attractive stylish Asian lady (31) seeks goodlooker for marriage! Genuine respondents. Photos essential. London/Berks. Please reply to Box No 0959

WORKING widow WLTM widower with warmth, wit and wisdom.Reply to Box No 1275

45yr old lady - educated, interesting, intelligent - seeks wider social contact. Interests theatre, music, current events. Likes children. London /Bedfordshire /Cambridgeshire. Please Reply to Box No 1549

Z. This will ensure that you read the best ad last! V. attractive vivacious slim professional lady 39 n/s. Cheshire based. WLTM successful professional man of character & wit 40-50. Photo please to Box No 1285

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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ACADEMIC & professional ladies & gentlemen alone in East Anglia. & Cambridge College dinner parties. Tel Elizabeth Stuart. Cambridge 328281

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API for Asian professionals & graduates seeking educated partners. Tel. 081 941 0990.

ARE YOU 50+ and looking for friendship or romance? Find out about a new introduction agency - ring 071 794 0208, or write to Mature Friends, PO Box 3627, London NW3 5UT.

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CASCADE, social groups for the unattached ladies and gentlemen aged 30-55, meet weekly at the civilised end of the M4 - Cardiff - Glos - Bristol - Pembs - Somerset - Swansea - Bath plus dances - superb weekends away, dining, walks, holidays, sport, and so much more! Membership details 0495 785309 noon to 7pm 7 days.

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NEXUS. - During the Autumn Nexus members will not only be having dinner dance weekends away and meeting socially, but also making friends individually. What will you be doing? Unattached? Ring for the brochure. Head Office, (08574) 71704, (02574) 21619, (0532) 446186, (081) 367 6328, (0869) 338601, (041) 221 1090, (0202) 761006, (0296) 831699 or (021) 472 1968. Not a marriage bureau or dating service.

OXFORD lady scientist, 40, looked in the mirror this morning and thought... ' for how much longer is all this going to go to waste?' Are you intelligent, considerate, and interested in recycling? Please Reply to Box No 1388

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WEST Yorks, Grad? Prof? 35-50ish? S/W/D? Don't want dating/marriage bureau? Do want similar, normal company for theatre, conversation, whatever? Are there enough of us to meet? First name and tel. no. to Box No 1353

WOULD You like your name on our mailing list for future singles parties? 081 954 6896

GENTLEMEN

ABLE to travel energetic, unattached, successful, entrepreneur seeks fun loving female for serious relationship. Age 40 to 50 ish, attractive, size 12/14, medium height, class and poise. Enjoys theatre, wining, dining and Mediterranean climate. Willing to keep a tooth brush at the ready ! Photo ensures an immediate response. Please Reply to Box No 1411

A Brand new man, not boring, not fat, not ugly, not poor, not British, not 40 yet, seeks a lady for lasting relationship, photo, London, ALA. Please Reply to Box No 1316

ACADEMIC prof, sporty male 50's (looks 40's) likes books, tennis, SOH, home, salads. Seeks similar slim lady 40-46 w/o children ready for commitment? Photo helpful. Box 1322

ACTIVE and attractive, blue eyes, fit brown hair, 6'+, 39, Fun, fit, affluent, professional n/s. First time ad by warm, caring romantic who likes eating out, the arts, food company, travel, also animals and the outdoors. Gregarious, tactile, GSOH. WLTM attractive, sensuous and fun-to-be-with female 26-38 for friendship and more. Photo App. and returned. W & SW London. Please Reply to Box No 1537

ADVENTUROUS intelligent fun loving lady 40-55, n/s, sought by Cardiff area based divorced business man, 50's, many varied interests, tall, dark, solvent, very eligible GSOH. Photo & phone please. Box No 1112

ADVENTUROUS tall male, 30, successful and well travelled seeks attractive female 20-35. Please Reply to Box No 1535

AFRICAN Safari two handsome gentlemen wanting two adventurous ladies for a 3-4 month overland Campervan safari. Share some costs. Recent photo essential for reply. Box No 1257

A kind, bright, unmarried Company Director, fit, slim, young 50's 6'6". Devout R.C. Loves Rosary, books, countryside, theatre WLTM beautiful unmarried lady 27-38 any nationality, anywhere. Photo accepted and returned. Replies sensitively handled in complete confidence. Box No 1365

ALWAYS optimistic active company director 58 living in SW London and West Berkshire (W/E) would like to hear from ladies who feel uncomfortable on the race course and can tell Claret from Burgundy. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 1456

AMAZING Magic Man - no, just a sincere, prof, solvent, caring, fun-loving C. London based fit 40's man hoping to bring magic into the life of a slim, pretty, feminine, sincere, affectionate London/ Home Counties 30's lady looking for lifelong loving partnership & children (more?). Detailed letter, honest photo & phone number please to Box No 1309. Incidentally, I've tickets for D.Copperfield Nov. 3.

ARCHITECT 38 seeks intelligent woman. I am 6'2" with brown hair and broad shoulders. I own two businesses and at times have to be totally work orientated. I enjoy food, films, countryside and long cuddles. If you live in London/SE why not send your phone number and lets chat. Reply to Box No 1320

ARE you 25-40 feminine and sensuous. If so, a 42 year old male waits to be smitten by you. A photo would be nice. Please Reply to Box No 1542

ATTRACTIVE man, tall slim n/s fit fortyish, v.solvent, own hair teeth & other essentials including daft sense of humour seeks v.slim foxy lady (30-40) with equally daft SOH for fun laughter and who knows..... Based London or SW, photo ensures reply. Reply to Box No 1445

ATTRACTIVE professional/ business guy, 44, seeks younger female, 30s for close friendship, much fun & uncontrolled romance! Photo appreciated. Dorset/London. Please Reply to Box No 1536

ATTRACTIVE well-travelled, fit gentleman, apparently very eligible and caring, enjoys outdoor sports & culture. Seeks similar lady, 25+. Please Reply with photo to Box No 1389

A well educated 50's n/s t/teetotaller gent seeks European or other lady interested in Islam for friendship and possibly more.Reply to Box No 1171

BATH Countryman 50 needs younger companion for sun, ski, romance. Please Reply to Box No 1352

BORN 1950/51 ? Tony, 51, single, educated, creatively s/ employed, trim, 6ft, holistically orientated, world music/nature loving, passionate/peaceful, warm, enthusiastic, adventurous - seeks 'childfree' artistic, trim, attractive soul mate. Birthdate/interests/photo exchange? (Richmond) can travel. Box No 1186

CARING capricorn man, GSOH, 5'9", attractive well preserved (non-smoker) mid 40s n/s. Very solvent London based director. Enjoys wining/dining, art, travel, clay shooting, skiing, boating etc. Seeks slim, attractive, intelligent, tactile, female up to 36yrs. Who is looking for a long term happy relationship +. Photo & phone No please to Box No 1543

CARING, tall, intelligent professional man, 36, South Midlands based with a passion for theatre, literature, tennis, chess and much more WLTM a compatible, attractive lady under 38. Reply to Box No 1484

CITY Executive 54 seeks attractive lady for long term relationship. Please Reply Box No 1481

CIVILIZED man 59, central London, financially secure, eclectic interests seeks intelligent, slim woman to enjoy life with. Please reply with photo to Box No 1447

COMPANIONLESS Surrey man 54, unqualified to assess his appeal to opposite sex, would like to date similarly disadvantaged lady. Please Reply to Box No 1455

COSMOPOLITAN, good-looking, intelligent, London-based 6ft male loves to laugh (in and out of context...) seeks interesting (alive) attractive 40ish female. Please Reply to Box No 1458

GENT 46, professional, tallish, attractive and slim, seeks a pleasant n/s open minded lady any age for walks, concerts, theatre, spoiling and more, dorset based. Box No 1394

HEDONISM failure! Tall well built, well tutored (57) well-to-do Surrey ne'r-do-well needs well favoured amusing temptress sufficiently glamorous to refresh those parts etc. Photo speeds process. Please Reply to Box No 1384

HOPELESSLY romantic well educated 59 male, fit, slim, solvent, full of fun and quite impossible dares any gorgeous female of 35-50 with a love of country life, opera, eating out, holidays and getting lots of affection to write with photo if possible. London and South. Please Reply to Box No 1355

IF You hate boredom and Winter, but enjoy laughing, good restaurants, lots of travel and a carefree life, and you're 35-40, soft and feminine, intelligent, as beautiful inside as you are outside; come fly with me - I am 6ft 4, athletic, and good fun to be around. If, like me, you would never think of replying to one of these - escape your inhibitions, send a photo and write to Box No 1264

I know this SR ad. Has an audience of 1.2 million, but how about a reply from just you? Single professional businessman 46. Good sense of humour, many interests seeks similar interesting female 30-40 for short term fun followed by long term relationship. London based. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 1518

I'M a 45 year old N/S VGSOH English man with my own house, daughter, and business. I love classical music, opera, wine, food, and France. I don't much like pop-music, dirt, mess, animals in my house, socialism, conflict, diminutive vocabularies, or low standards. I'm looking for a lady who'd consider tolerating that indefinitely.. Age and beauty are unimportant. The possibility of more children would be a plus. Please send the longest possible letter, preferable not hand written, and a recent picture. I promise to reply. North West London. Please Reply to Box No 1316

INDEPENDENT wealthy good-looking single businessman early 40's seeking intelligent very stylish good looking lady who wishes to meet a man of substance for a loving fun 1 to 1 relationship. Photo and tel no app.Reply to Box No 1326

JILTED writer, 41, seeks companion for 2wk Baja California tour. Romantic interest nice, not obligatory. Bring sense of humour & adventure. Box 1369

KIND caring business man 38 workaholic needs someone to help me unwind. I have a GSOH love the great outdoors (I own a black labrador) I enjoy eating out staying in all that sort of stuff. You must be female 29-40 honest kind and accept people for what they are also stunningly beautiful because I bear a remarkable resemblance to Quasi Modo! A sense of humour may be of help in these circumstances. A short note, tel. no & photograph will at least make me laugh and get you a reply. Shropshire/ Midlands. Please Reply to Box No 1544

KIND, caring chief executive, romantic, amusing, who enjoys country/town life plus cultural activities seeks slim attractive, cultivated 50-58 years lady to share life with him. Photo app.Reply to Box No 1370

LEICESTERSHIRE man, 60, Management Consultant, tall, slim, n/s, warm, easy going, GSOH, open with feelings but not a wimp, enjoys conversation, walks, cinema, theatre, seeks attractive lady, 38-50 for friendship/relationship. Please Reply to Box No 1505

LIVELY goodlooking Dutch bachelor, 6'8", 50y/young loves theatre, music, romantic - friendships. Seeks an interesting, sensual younger(er) female for keeps. Photograph? Please Reply to Box No 1534

LONDON based businessman late 40s, public school, Oxbridge, hopes to meet lady who likes art or music or good food or all of these but good company most important.Reply Box No 1134

LOST in Yorkshire - tall, slim, public school educated professional, and at 34, remarkably still single despite my good looks! Seeks fun loving like minded lady with a passion for life. Reply to Box No 1446

MANAGING DIRECTOR - own business - late 40's 6ft 9in, slim, considerate, good natured and solvent, seeks very attractive lady for laughter and companionship hopefully eventually leading to long term relationship/ marriage. You are stylish, modern and romantic, probably in your thirties and are looking for someone special. Preferred area London South/East although distance will not present a problem as I have considerable freetime. You should enjoy being spoilt. The right lady will not be disappointed. Please enclose a recent photograph to Box No 1363

MY name is William I am 12 years old. We live in a nice house in London. I wish my Daddy could meet a sincere young lady for us to live together happily. Please Reply to Box No 1280

PRESENTABLE active educated Englishman, not young, hopes to meet independent compatible morning sister (40-50?). London north of Thames. Box No 1476

PROFESSIONAL Engineer, Ph.D. Mid-forties, mature but adventurous streak, keen motorist and motorcyclist. Looking for lady to share weekend - wind-in-the-hair outings, pub lunches and occasional 5 star sophisticated adventures. Distance no object. Please Reply to Box No 1369

PROFESSIONAL male, SE, 40's fit, seeks partner who hates television, children, religion: Who loves, to be hugged; hot chocolate, poetry; cycles, sings in the bath, is 25-35. Photograph please. Hand-written replies will be answered. Box 1532

PROFESSIONAL man, likes music, photography, countryside: own successful business Hopes to meet feminine, attractive young lady in East Anglia for shared interests and outings. Reply to Box No 1378

PROFESSIONAL gent, 31 fit and attractive, wide range of interests including art walking and laughing fit seeks caring lady 24 - 34, Yorkshire area. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 1479

PROFESSOR (Literature) retired, unattached, young in heart and fancy-free, seeks a female companion who is looking, like him, for a loving physical relationship. London/N.C. Please Reply to Box No 1291

PROFESSIONAL/BUSINESS Gentlemen over 50 urgently required for West Midlands No 1 introduction service, over 250 superb ladies, no obligation interview, special offer for the next 14 days. 021 353 1173

PROFESSIONAL, 54, tall, widower in Bromley seeks independent sincere homeloving, caring lady Central/South London for possible permanent relationship. Please Reply Box 1581

PROFESSIONAL male 60 active, young outlook, varied interests seeks n/s, home loving, caring lady 45-54 for TLC, friendship /romance. South Lincs/Cambs. Please Reply to Box No 1443

QUITE good looking, slightly enigmatic, chivalrous English Gentleman (50ish but fit) seeks a very attractive London lady (ex-model perhaps?) to help him match his shirts and ties and (more seriously!) share his enviable life-style and enjoy his protection. Recent photo essential but its return is guaranteed. Please Reply to Box No 1422

RICHARD GERE type. Very handsome, exceptional lifestyle, well educated, 6ft, 30yr old, very successful, wealthy, fit, kind, GSOH, n/s enjoys the best life has to offer. Seeks stunning girl 20-30 yrs old to share it all with. If you are that girl in a million who believes in life's fairy tale & who wants it all, just write. Photo ess. London area.Box No 1372

S.STAFFS based professional gent, 39, tall, slim, enjoys countryside, conversation, humour, seeks warm hearted, well educated, 30's lady. Please Reply to Box No 1465

SINGLE educated chap, 30, living in Leics/Cambs border. Seeks intelligent fun female 25-35 for friendship/romance and sharing rural lifestyle. Box No 1383

SLEEPLESS in suburbia. Professional man 49. Witty & attractive, wide interests seeks lady soulmate 35-45 to share some good and hopefully exciting times. Must be warm, affectionate and slim(ish). Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 1535

SOLVENT Dorset countryman 34, tall, fit and easy going seek female to share walks, talks, holidays, sports, good wines, log fires and a loving friendship. Photo. Please Reply Box 1379

SOULLOVING professional male (38), slim build, medium height, reasonable looking with warm, honest, intelligent, sensual, giving personality seeks similar feminine lady who likes good food/wine, travel, arts, music and allover sunbathe. Photo appreciated. Sussex/Hants/London. Please Reply to Box No 1470

TALL dark handsome modest male 41 (nr Slough) seeks slim feminine stylish female any age. Photo if poss. Box No 1482

TALL, easy going intelligent solvent Geordie hunk, young 37, n/s likes motor racing: mountain biking, eating out, theatre, cinema, seeks compatible lady to share like pleasures. Please Reply to Box No 1319

TRAVELLING companion for mature lady. 26, good company and looks, intelligent with a love of life. Reply Box No 1504

UNCHAINED melody. Let's walk in the country, dine, dance and hopefully share the higher things in life. I'm a tall slim humorous NS Caucasian man (46), Mid-Sussex. Please Reply to Box No 1373

VERY presentable, cultured Cotswolds gentleman, 60, solvent, available, seeks slim attractive lady. 56 plus. Box No 1522

WELL bring up handsome chap, 45, divorced 6 years, kids at Uni, own business, laid back, Kind, affectionate, amusing, quietly dynamic, has yet to meet the right single. Independent, self centred, dishy lady for silly times, travel, walks, theatres and debauchery. Photo please (ret.) Reply to Box 1527

WEST Berks/East Wilts borders. Professional down to earth single male 47 seeks attractive educated slim feminine lady 30-40s for caring, sharing friendship - then, who knows? No high flier please! Photo appreciated if possible. Please Reply to Box No 1460

WIDOWER - youthful 59, Bus. man 5'10" N.W.London, very attractive, athletic build, int. outlook, well travelled, no ties, extrovert nature, progressive & solvent, warm, sensitive & romantic. Int.in classical music, opera, good food, conversation, Italian culture, language etc. Would enjoy meeting a very attractive, shapely, blue/green-eyed lady, cultured, warm natured, well educated, good SOH important, any nationality, 38-50 yrs., 5'4"-5'9", for a genuine caring relationship. Recent photo ess/exch. phone No.app. Serious replies only please. Reply Box No 1471

YORKSHIRE, slim, quiet, outdoor type, 5'9", 48 yrs, gentle sincere & romantic, seeks 30-48 slender, pretty and affectionate female to love and cherish. Photo please to Box No 1462

YOUNG, non-standard, non-tall, 40yr old man, in creative irregular hours profession, dog owner, who loves adventure travelling, motor racing, music, films and gourmet food, wishes to meet a like-minded adventurous woman under 40. London/ Home counties. Please Reply to Box No 1421

YOUTHFUL, 6' male, 40s own business, wide-cultural, musical and sporting interests, romantic and sensitive with a sense of humour, seeks slim, attractive, n/s natural female under 40, with no ties, for laughter, love and good times. Photograph appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 1451

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When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be.

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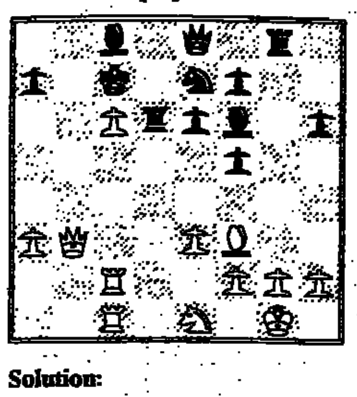
GAMES

CHESS

by Raymond Keene

THIS week I continue to answer readers' queries. The first position here occurred in the game Kuporosov v Yudasin, Kostromo 1985, which was published as a Winning Move in *The Times* on Thursday September 1. Aron Nimzowitsch, the great chess teacher, wrote of the passed pawn's "lust to expand". In this position White finds a way to satisfy this lust in dramatic fashion.
What did he play?

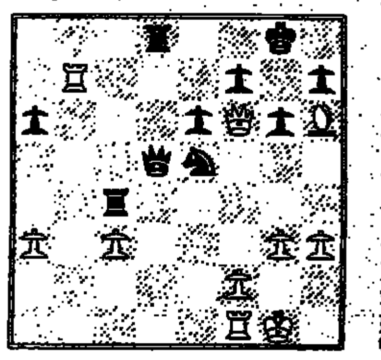


Solution:

1 Qb8+! Kxb8 2 c7 mate

Among many others, Eric Lyall of Hertfordshire and Robert Staplin of Bristol suggested that Black could continue the struggle with 1... Kd8. However, the quickest finish against this defence is 2 Qxd6+ Bd7 3 c7+ Kc8 4 Qa6 mate.

In the following position published on August 8, from the game Arkell v Walker, British Championship, 1994, Black resigned.



Terence O'Brien, of Chichester, and Gomer Thomas, of Cambridge, suggest that Black should have tried 1 ... Nf3+, but this is met by 2 Kh1 Ne1+ (or 2 ... Nh4+) 3 f3 and Black has no more tricks and is quickly mated.

Reader Contributions

This column welcomes queries and games from readers. Readers are reminded that all those who write in will be rewarded with a single issue of the *British Chess Magazine*, while those whose queries and/or games are published will receive a complimentary six-month subscription.

All queries referring to a Winning Move position should be accompanied by a diagram of the position in question. Please send your contributions to Keene on Chess, c/o *The Times*, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN.

Staunton Society

Howard Staunton (1810-1874) was Britain's greatest chessplayer of the 19th century. He has lent his name to the Staunton pattern pieces, in universal use for important chess competitions.

Sadly, Staunton now lies in an unmarked grave in Kensal Green, London. The Staunton Society has recently been set up, with Nigel Short as its President, to raise sufficient funds for a fitting headstone for Staunton in Kensal Green.

To join the society or to attend its inaugural banquet on November 1, contact Brian Clivaz, the organiser, at Simpson's-in-the-Strand, the Staunton Society's headquarters, 100 The Strand, London WC2 (Tel: 071 836 9112).

Early Christmas Tip

The Encyclopaedia of Chess Variants, by chess and puzzle expert David Pritchard is a handsomely produced volume. If you want to know about Shogi, Shatranj and Quantum Krigsspiel, then this is the book for you. It costs £21.99 hardback and is only available from: Games and Puzzles publications, PO Box 20, Godalming, Surrey GU8 4YP.

WINNING MOVE

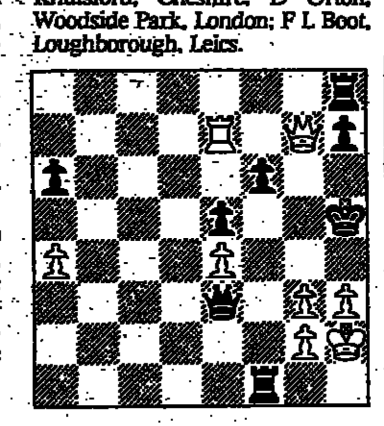
By Raymond Keene

All this week's positions are taken from *Attack with Mikhail Tal*, published by Cadogan. This position is from the game Gaprindashvili - Vereczi, Belgrade 1974. Here White settled for a draw by perpetual check with 1 Qg4+ Kh6 2 Qg7+ Kh5 3 Qg4+ etc. However, she should have been more ambitious. How can White win?

Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine book. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Qg6+

Last week's winners are: J Crandle, Knutsford, Cheshire; D Orton, Woodside Park, London; F L Boot, Loughborough, Leics.



PUNCHLINE

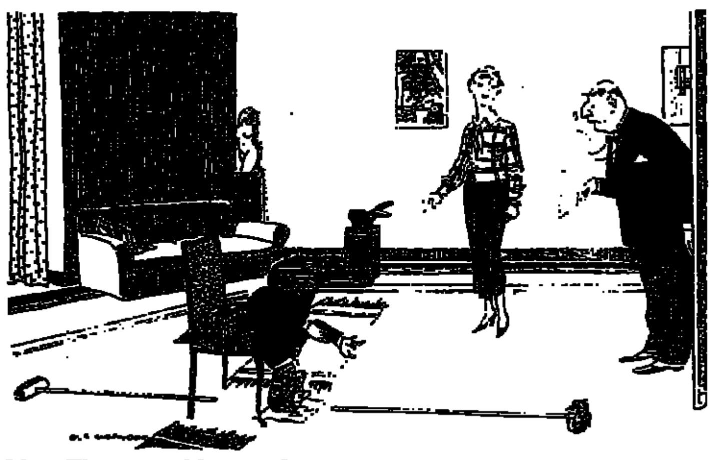
READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon on the right. The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Caption suggestions, on a postcard please, should be addressed to: Cartoon Caption 28, Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The editor's decision is final.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday, October 26.

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL MOMENT



Now Fiona would never forget how to get from the motorway to Cyril's weekend cottage

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (printed above) was submitted by Tony Rylance, of Gosworth, Newcastle upon Tyne

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BROSIER
a. A wicker garden fence
b. To be bankrupt
c. A ladle

CULCHING
a. Malingering
b. A Chinese dynasty
c. Making an oyster bed

AMBIENS
a. A bird muscle
b. An itinerant minstrel
c. A meandering river

GOOG
a. A fool
b. An egg
c. An electrical transformer

Answers on page 25

BRIDGE

by John Graham

A.E. HOUSMAN thought of his poems as morbid secretions, as the pearl is the morbid secretion of the oyster. Before considering some healthy secretions, here, from the wilder shores of bidding fancy, are some pearly gadgets designed by international theorists.

In the MOSCITO system from Australia a one no-trump opener described a balanced hand with no four-card major, which meant that Stayman was used to locate three-card majors. This was far too orthodox for a group of Polish innovators, who preferred the one no-trump opener to have 8-12 high-card points with five hearts and four clubs, or possibly five spades and four diamonds.

POLISH DELTA preferred the opening bidder to identify his shortage immediately. Thus a one-heart bid showed 8-12 points with a singleton or void in hearts, *or* a singleton or void in clubs combined with either a long major or a 5-5 shape! Most such unusual systems were derived from the strong pass, which obliged you to open with 0-7 points. These opening bids were christened FERTS (short for fertilisers), and quickly rechristened "misery bids".

What happened after the misery was announced was often a RELAY. The opener's partner made the next highest legal bid (e.g. one heart over one diamond) and the opener provided further information, usually about shape. The relay could then be continued, or the responder could give the "end signal" by bidding four diamonds. This commanded the opener to bid four hearts (known as "puppeting"), whereupon the responder selected the final contract.

The advantage of relays was that when the weak hand became dummy, opponents knew next to nothing about the strong hand. The disadvantage was that the general confusion was so great that the more complicated systems have largely been banned. Excessive gadgetry is widely held to be a pernicious influence, but here are three respectable conventions, of good parentage, which can easily be grafted on to normal methods and are a lot of fun:

● DRURY: this was invented by a Californian whose partner loved to open major suits in third position with weak hands. Suppose as dealer you have ♠Q-9-2 ♥10-6-4 ♦A-K-7-4 ♣Q-4-3, and after two passes your partner bids one spade. You don't know what to do. A single raise is too weak, a double raise inappropriate, with only three-card support and bad shape. Two no trumps may lead to three, and you will only have yourself to blame when the opponents take the first five tricks in hearts plus a side ace for good measure.

A Drury bid of two clubs solves the problem. It says to partner: "Are you a light third-hander or full strength?" If he was light, he replies two spades and you pass; if strong, he replies something else and you can explore for game. Advantage: you can open light majors in third position, gaining pre-emptive value, while protected from catastrophe and still able to reach game if you have a normal opener.

● FOURTH SUIT ARTIFICIAL (or forcing): suppose you pick up ♠A-3 ♥7-5-4 ♦9-7-2 ♣A-K-J-6-5 and partner opens one spade. You bid two clubs and he replies two diamonds. When you now bid two hearts (the fourth suit), you are guaranteeing at least 10-11 points, no obvious support for partner's suits and a weakness in hearts. (If you were strong in hearts you could have bid no trumps.) Partner can now judge what action is best. Advantage: you can identify playable no trump games, stay out of unmakeable ones, and stop in part-score contracts.

● SPLINTERS: these are unnecessary jump-shifts showing a good fit in partner's suit (normally guaranteeing game) and a singleton or void in the suit bid. They are splendid devices for locating distributional slams.

West		East
♠AK109	N	♠QJ742
♥K6	W E	♥A84
♦KQ9	S	♦A1052
♣7432		♣8

East-West have only 26 points between them, but excellent chances of making six spades. West opens one spade and East splinters with four clubs, since game in spades is a near certainty, even if West has opened light. East's known club shortage suits West perfectly and the slam should now be reached. If West had held the K-Q of clubs instead of diamonds, the duplication would have been identified and he could have signed off with four spades. Advantage: getting into slams which are otherwise very hard to bid, and keeping out of impossible ones. Here is the very useful application of a splinter over a minor suit opening, when it tends to show five-card support:

West	North / South	East
	♠A53	
	♥5	
	♦A9852	
	♣KJ97	
♠J98	N	♠7642
♥A8643	W E	♥KQ72
♦Q10	S	♦4
♣543		♣Q1086
	♠KQ10	
	♥J109	
	♦KJ763	
	♣A2	

South opens one diamond and North splinters to three hearts. With one bid he has proposed game in diamonds, denied a four-card major, declared a shortage in hearts, and suggested exploring for slam if the hands fit. South knows that they do, and should get to six diamonds. If his major suit holdings were reversed, he would sign off in three no trumps.

COMPUTER GAMES

WE START this week with a plea to Britain's software companies from Bill Armstrong, of Kincardineshire, who for a Ph.D is currently researching the benefits of computer games. "I'm looking at the positive effects the use of computer games can have on the development of problem solving and learning skills," he writes. He is keen to make contact with any software companies who can further his serious gaming study and you can write to him via the column.

Bill was a winner of an earlier Cyberspace competitioin in the summer, receiving, among others, a copy of The Software Toolworks *Megarace* on CD-ROM, on which he gives this verdict: "It's a great example of what multimedia and CD-ROM can do for computer games. The intro and the video clips really create an atmosphere that's somewhere between *Bladerunner* and *Mad Max*. The gameshow host, Lance Boyle (what a name!), is so smarmy, I felt like saying, *à la* Schwarzenegger: 'I'll be back'. I'm not usually a fan of racing car games, but the combination of superb graphics (including great detailed scenery of the race tracks), easily controlled cars and futuristic feel really got me hooked. Also, as the violence is only virtual, I had no qualms about letting my five year-old son loose on it and he too, thinks it is great."

ELECTRONIC ARTS®

CYBERSPACE Ten offers six of the best titles from the impressive catalogue of Electronic Arts, starting with one of the year's hits, Bullfrog's design and run-your-own *Theme Park*.

Wing Commander Armada is the latest instalment in the acclaimed series by maestro Chris Roberts for starfighters everywhere. In this version you can do battle with human opponents and construct your own universe and missions.

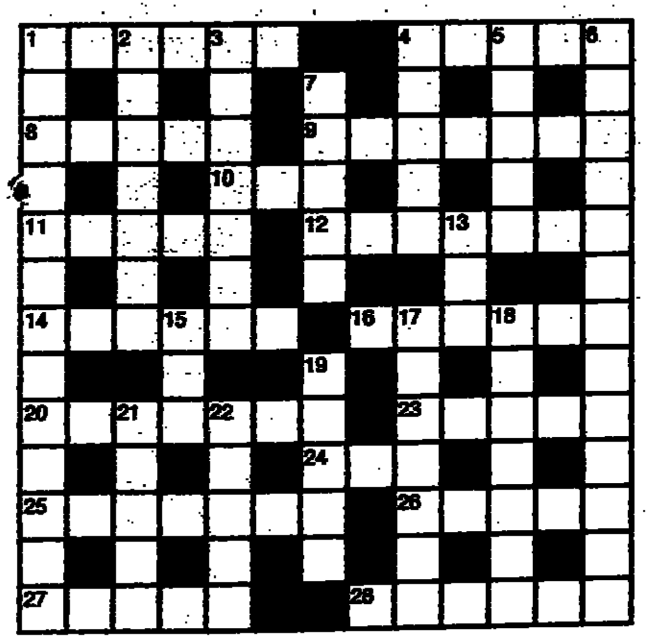
System Shock is *Doom*-esque, although more complicated. It takes a first-person perspective in a futuristic world, in which you must kill or be killed on a remote space station. *Scooter's Magic Castle* is a well-finished education title for five to eight year olds conjuring up a wealth of learning games, taking in musical stairs, picture puzzles and dancing garden.

Our six winners will receive the above titles on IBM PC floppy discs while the other two will be on CD-Rom. *PGA Golf Tour 486* is a great, photorealistic golfing game and *FIFA International Soccer* (the only soccer title endorsed by the game's world governing body, FIFA) boasts a vast library of animations and playing styles from bicycle kicks to chest traps.

To enter Cyberspace Ten you are invited to slip casually into the designer's chair and invent an imaginary game. Originality is the key to winning and, in short, there's nothing you can't suggest.

Entries must be highly legible and to a length of between 150 and 350 words. Please include your name, age, address and telephone number and mark your entry: Cyberspace Ten, Computer Games, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. You may also fax entries to us at 071-729 6791. The closing date is November 7.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 299

ACROSS

1 (Card) not hidden; confront (unpleasantness) (4,2)
4 Group of twelve (5)
8 Mathematical doughnut (5)
9 Fence; complaining (7)
10 Golfer's peg (3)
11 Scent (5)
12 Take part in contest (7)
14 Ate less to lose weight (6)
16 (Pontificating) expert (6)
20 Rotary engine (7)
23 Unsuccessful attempt (5)
24 State of hostility (3)
25 Determination (7)
26 So taken, when surprised (5)
27 In an underhand way (5)
28 Ball-game, has real version (6)

DOWN

1 Intermittent bursts (4,3,6)
2 Eat destructively (chemically) (7)
3 Take attention away (from) (7)
4 Belief in a God (5)
5 African country, formerly Belgian Congo (5)
6 Not that important (2,5,6)
7 A destroyed ship (5)
13 Play on words (3)
15 Open, flat-bottomed container (3)
17 Offence (taken) (7)
18 Get out at station (7)
19 Precious stone (5)
21 Out of practice (5)
22 Embed (decorative material) (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 298

ACROSS: 1 Superb 4 Impart 8 England 10 Hardy 11 Leek 12 Napoleon 14 Trafalgar 18 Illinois 20 Afar 22 Truth 23 Expects 24 Rehash 25 Nelson

DOWN: 1 Seemly 2 Pigment 3 Roan 5 Mah-jongg 6 Agree 7 Trying 9 Dramatise 13 Launches 15 Refocus 16 Victor 17 Prison 19 Laugh 21 Apse

CROSSWORD BOOKS (Reduced postage until Dec 31): The Times Concise Crosswords: (Books 1 & 2 £5.49 each). Books 3,4,5,6 & NEW Book 7 £4.00 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords: (Books 1 & 2 £5.49 each. Concise Book £5.49). The Times Crosswords : (Books 1 to 13 £4.49 each). Books 14 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.00 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords — (Book 1 £4.49). Books 10,11,12 & NEW Book 13 £4.00 each. The Sunday Times Concise: Books 1,2,3 £4.00 each. Except the items in brackets, software available for all titles for IBM PCs and Acorn computers — Price £14.95 each — also The Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1 to 6. The Sunday Times Vols 1 to 6 and The Times Jubilee Edition. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to *Akom Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No. 3276: The Plays of the Bard by Salamanca

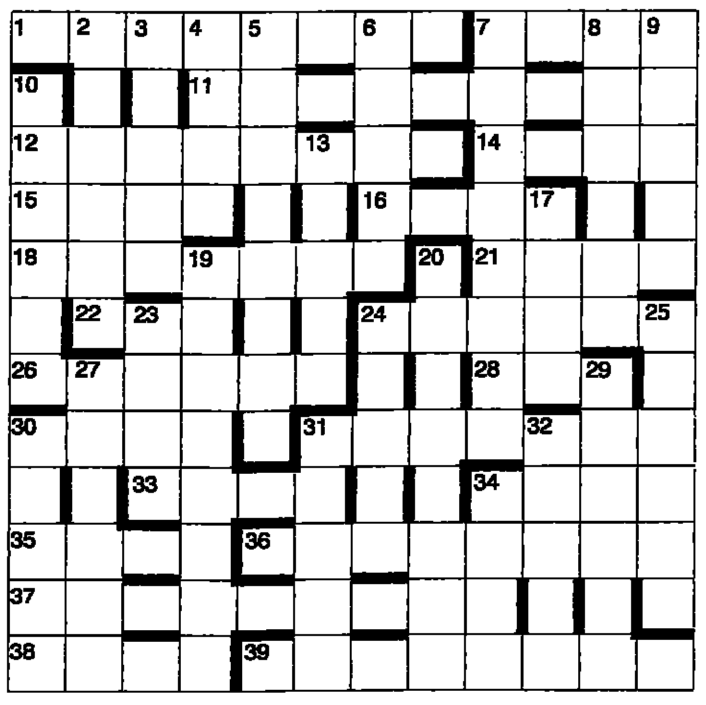
Henry VI, Part I. TEA ONLY completes the four normal unclued entries which refer relevantly to all the other entries in the grid, including the (four) answer(s) at 34D.

ACROSS

7 Hot drinks one's concocted (7)
14 Best imaginable fish on line? (5)
15 Starting-point for cook: cover item with butter? (5)
16 Old Negro, fixed grin (5)
21 A letter from the Bard right from the centre of the stage? (5)
22 The Bard's villain returning short bit of Scots land (4)
24 These aquatic mammals appear around about noon time (8)
26 Ones boiling with rage continually het up inside (8)
28 Finish, no longer courteous (4)
30 Dry well, small amount of liquid in it (5)
31 It catches fish carelessly asleep round edge of lake (8)
33 These fabulous birds are busily active at start of Autumn (5)
34 Sportsman's companion found around about Lakes say (6)
35 Effort required by one going to South America? (5)
36 Alistair's one called Zebra is one CIA foul-up (2 words, 10)
37 Cog — with me working to get fish? (10)
38 Bone islands Scots man's excavated (5)
39 Jock's eye closed with head pillowed and covers pulled over — in this he won stir! (2 words, 9)

DOWN

2 Top up battery, say? Take a bit of work before beginning to generate (8)
3 The opposite of night energy? (7)
4 A person initially well within earshot once (5)
5 See in pasture Indian tree hung with blossoms? (9)
6 First signs of early crustaceans embedded — not very old here? (6)
7 Ages — transformed with time — changes back (10)
8 Part of spacecraft with round look housing cosmonauts' two leaders (8)
9 Hard nib engraving time record in soft metal (8)
10 Oar-driven vessel: there's one in bow, eg working (8)
13 Small fish in watercourse heading for the bottom? (7)
17 'The Extras in the Band', by King (author) 7
19 Gosh! I need to change employment in places where cotton's treated (9)
20 Torments — studies breakdowns, we hear (10)
23 Tool Jock used in thatching (6)
24 See me given increase, more likely to inherit everything? (6)
25 Leading actor in early stage performance with unequal parts? (7)
27 With pupal finish insect's mostly coming out — this? (8)
29 Strongly disapprove of uplifting English character-part — dramatic lead (7)
30 Block up bounded regions removing opening (6)
31 I stretch out my arm to end muscle pain (7)
32 Joins by interlacing folds one's dropped (7)
34 Beneficial pest finally annoying everyone (7) (7) (8) (9)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No. 3276

NAME ....

ADDRESS ....

....

POSTCODE ....

PRIZES: Book tokens worth £50 will go to the winner. The two runners-up will each win £20 book tokens.

ADDRESS: Readers should cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above, to The *Listener* Crossword 3276, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, November 3.

T	H	E	E	N	T	R	A	N	C	E	O	F	T
S	E	T	T	O	O	N	R	R	A	E	R	I	H
S	N	E	A	K	T	H	I	E	F	L	O	T	E
E	T	R	R	I	A	L	O	F	T	K	P	O	C
H	A	N	S	E	L	E	T	R	A	C	E	M	E
C	H	A	I	R	■	■	■	■	N	A	S	A	L
T	O	L	M	O	■	■	■	■	O	L	A	E	L
A	B	O	U	T	■	■	■	■	N	A	E	C	O
G	U	S	L	A	■	■	■	■	E	W	S	T	P
N	O	Y	A	N	C	E	L	Y	T	S	I	P	E
I	N	R	T	O	T	E	A	R	A	T	R	O	N
Y	N	I	T	S	E	D	R	A	D	N	A	T	S
A	E	N	O	E	A	I	G	L	E	T	I	E	A
L	P	X	S	R	E	V	O	C	S	I	D	D	N

Solution to No. 3273 Force 10 by Llig

Perimeter: "The entrance of the cell opens and discovers (Ferdinand (and) Miranda) playing at Chess" *(The Tempest* v.i. before line 171)

Title: Force 10 = Severe gale ie. tempest

Clues: 1. TEE-R 2. HEN-T 3. ETERNAL (anag) 4. TOT-AL(L) 5. A-RIO-T 5.ANTIS anag 6. C-AFT-AN 7. O'-ROPES-A 8 2 meanings 9 REAR-(HORSE) 10. HIRE/HIGHER 11. Anag IFHESTAKEN 12. HORN-LET 13. FLO(T)E 14. A-LOFT 15. Hidden 16. FE(R)N 17. K-LEE 18.H-ANS-EL(P) 19.IE(rev) K-ON 20. RACE-ME 21. CART-EL 22. MO'-FIT(rev) 23. COO T/L 23. C-HAIR 24. DA-K.O.-IT 25. hidden 26. Anag ALOTMUST 27. hidden 28. A-BOUT 29. IN-FE(R)E 30. A-LACK 31. Anag. 32. Anag 33. SYR-IN-X 33. SOLA-N 34. NOY-AN-C-E 35. CALL/CAUL 36. L-ARGO 37 TEN(DER)-ON = in menu 37.T-WEE-L 38. PO-(T'E)-D 39. EP-I-STYLE 40. IN-NS 41. TOT-(B)EAR 42. RADA(rev) 43.TORMENT-MET=TRON 44. A-S(C)OT anag 45. Hidden 46. SOCKS/SOX 47. DE(STI)NY 48. ATTAIN (T) 49. STAND (=Canterbury) A.RD 50. A-GILT-E anag 51. ROIN (anag) 51. Anag+lit 52. Va-STY 52. VIDE(O) 53. CLAR(IT)Y 54. SED-A-TE 55. DI-A-RISE

The winner, who receives book tokens worth £50, is Mrs P.M. Thorley, Kinoulton, Nottinghamshire. Book tokens worth £20 got to Mr J.C. Harding, Portishead, Bristol, and Mrs D. Walter, Rayleigh, Essex.

In 1982 Frank Myers was redundant and flat broke. **12 years later he's bounced back as managing director of his own company which exports 'Flatcones' around the world.**

There's a lot of lolly in cones. The turnover is £3 million per annum and rising.

So how did he do it? Well, that "Eureka" moment came in 1985 when Frank turned to his wife and said: "Why do cones have to be round?" From then on he was on the road to success, even if it was to be a long one.

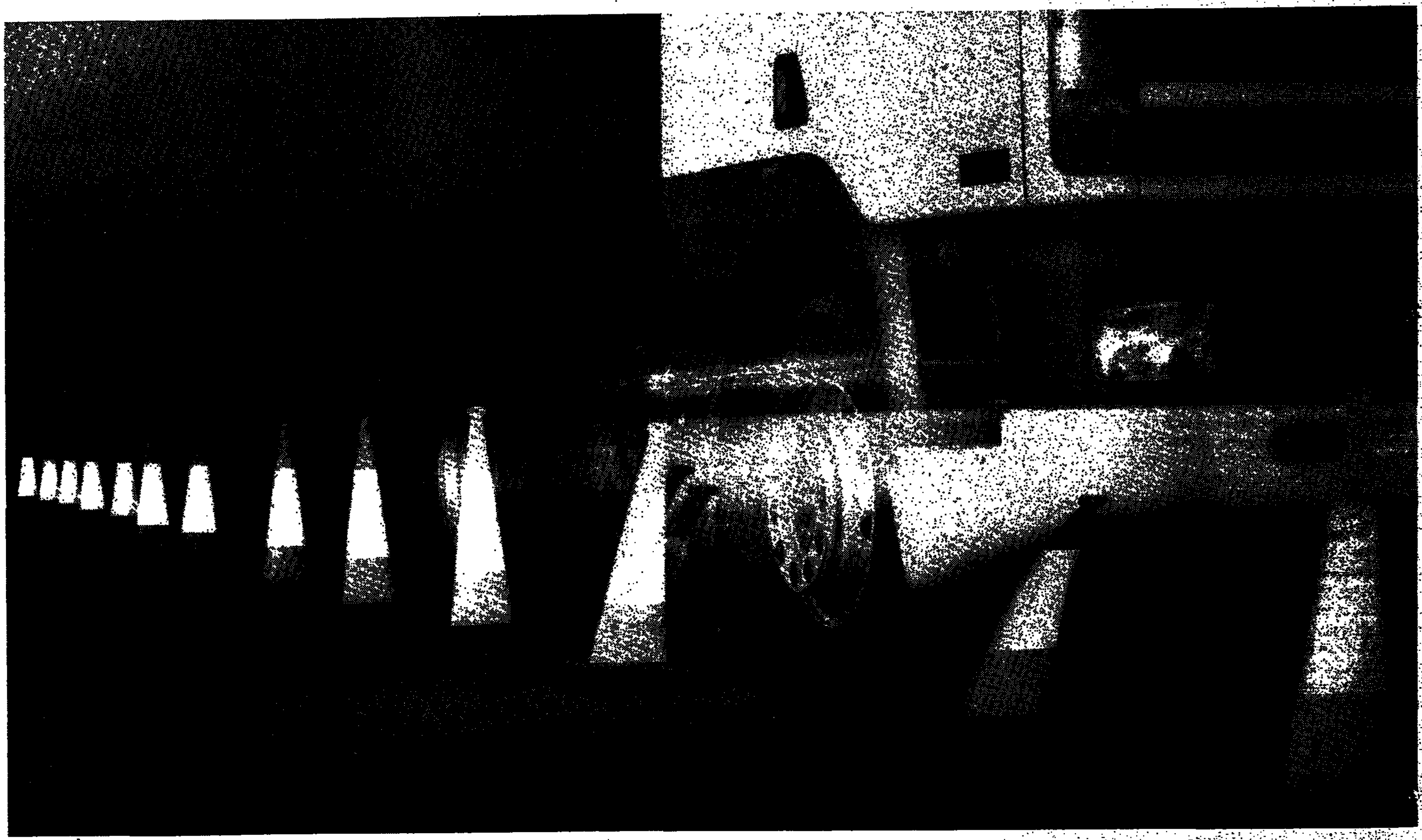
His research identified definite room for improvement. Traditional cones, he was surprised to discover, were responsible for up to 14% of motorway roadwork accidents. (Due to their tendency of getting trapped under vehicles when knocked over).

The 'Flatcone' he eventually developed is much safer as it just folds when run over then simply springs back into position. He also found a way to produce them very economically by using recycled tyre rubber for the base.

But probably his best idea was using the Patent Office. Thus ensuring his 'Flatcone' idea was properly protected. He even registered 'Flatcone' as a trade mark.

The Patent Office provides protection for all aspects of 'Intellectual Property' - trade marks, patents and registered designs. So if someone tried to get away with stealing Mr Myers' idea it wouldn't stand up in court.

To be Frank, we suggest you write or freephone for more information.



How to earn £3 million (even if your idea flops.)

Then make sure you write to Ted Blake for your free information pack at The Patent Office, Room 1 L02, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent, NP9 1RH. Call 0800 318654.

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The Patent Office